ALL ABOUT HISTORY

Napoleon's Waterloo triumph
What if the French emperor had won?

NEW

AL CAPONE
How Scarface made the streets of America swim with booze and blood

10 PLUNDERING PIRATES
Blood-curdling terrors of the seas

King Richard's violent quest for the Holy Land

LIONHEART

The crash of Wall Street
What happened the week the world went bust

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ISSUE 14

Become a WWI ace
How to win a deadly aerial dogfight

D-DAY!

NEW FOR 2014

A50162 1:72
D-Day Operation Overlord

D-DAY
1944-2014
70th Anniversary

These D-Day gift sets will be available in June to mark the 70th anniversary of D-Day. These four sets illustrate different stages during Operation Overlord and all of these come with vac-form bases to create the perfect diorama.

All the models included in each of these sets are also available to purchase individually.

A50157 D-Day Air Assault
A50156 D-Day Sea Assault
A50009 D-Day Battlefront

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The England team celebrate their 1966 World Cup win - we have an insider's account on page 36

Welcome

The stars of two of our main features this issue - Richard the Lionheart and Al Capone - have more in common than meets the eye. Both were single-minded in their determination to achieve their goal, whether that was to retake the Holy Land for the Christian faith or subject a city to their will.

They are also both controversial figures; while some see the Lionheart as a crusading king, others maintain he was a ruthless murderer. In the wake of Prohibition, was Capone a public menace or simply providing the public with a product they desperately wanted? Turn to pages 50 and 76 respectively to find out more about these two fascinating and contradictory characters.

With the 100-year anniversary of WWI fast approaching we've dedicated our front section to the world's first industrial-scale war. Find out in our special section how to win a WWI dogfight, what a day in the life of a WWI general comprised of and how soldiers protected themselves against poison gas. With an in-depth feature next issue on the defining battles and leaders of the Great War we are confident that we are giving the conflict the coverage it deserves.

Andrew Brown
Editor

Issue 14 highlights

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Your essential guide to the French Revolution – a social movement that tore a nation apart and left tens of thousands of its citizens dead by the feared guillotine.

36 Eye Witness
Neil Phillips was one of the doctors to the England football team and had a prime seat in the stadium when they took on West Germany in the 1966 World Cup final.

84 Gandhi's war
How the iconic Indian leader took on the intimidating might of the British Empire to fight for his country's independence through nonviolent methods.

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In 1929 people were piling their money into the New York Stock Exchange, convinced the good times would keep on rolling...

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84 Ghandi's peaceful war
Find out how the Indian leader took on the might of the British Empire through nonviolent protests

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Is it time to call last orders on *The Untouchables*' historical accuracy?

ENJOYED THE MAGAZINE? SUBSCRIBE & SAVE 50% Page 28

HISTORY IN COLOUR

THE ORIGINAL DOUBLE ACT

From the mid-1920s through the next two decades Stan Laurel (a thin Englishman) and Oliver Hardy (a heavyset American) dominated film comedy during Hollywood's 'golden age.' Although both were established actors before, when paired together in 1926 the comedians became international icons and starred in over 100 films together, both silent and 'talkies.'

1934

© Alamy Journalism by Dynachrome

DEFINING MOMENT

A NEW KING IS CROWNED

Juan Carlos pledges allegiance to Spain's Laws in front of then Spanish Parliament's Speaker Alejandro Rodriguez de Valcarcel during his corronation as King of Spain. He became King following the death of the dictator General Franco, who had ruled from 1930. King Carlos was head of state until his abdication on 2 June 2014.

22 November 1975

© AFP

DEFINING MOMENT

SPACE SHUTTLE TRAGEDY

The Challenger Space Shuttle and her seven-member crew were lost when a ruptured O-ring in the right solid rocket booster caused an explosion just 73 seconds after the Shuttle's launch. The disaster led to a 36-month suspension of the Space Shuttle program and a subsequent investigation found that NASA had disregarded numerous warnings.

28 January 1986

The Great War

Trenches, tactics and dogfights

This issue

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Meet ten of the conflict's most significant figures

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Become an ace in the skies of Europe and win a dogfight

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A British WWI general, making decisions that would make the difference between life and death for his soldiers

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Archduke Franz Ferdinand, whose assassination in Sarajevo lit the touch paper for WWI

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What life was like in the gruelling slog of trench warfare

24 Anatomy of
A German soldier protecting himself against poison gas

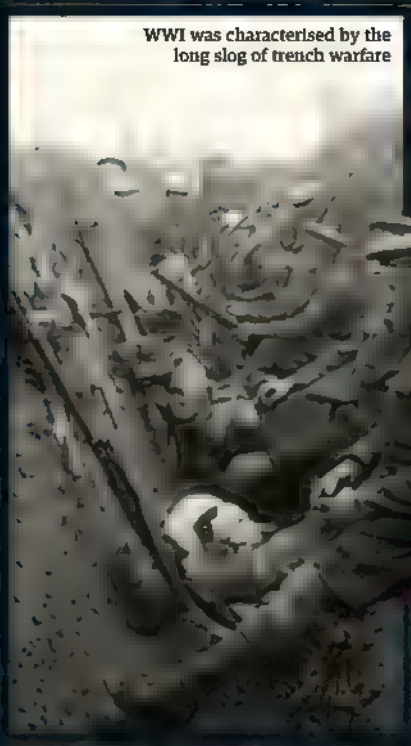
26 Timeline of a war
From pre-1914 tensions to the signing of the Armistice, get the low-down on how the conflict played out

Sailors work on the deck of the Navy ship USS Mississippi on 1 April 1916

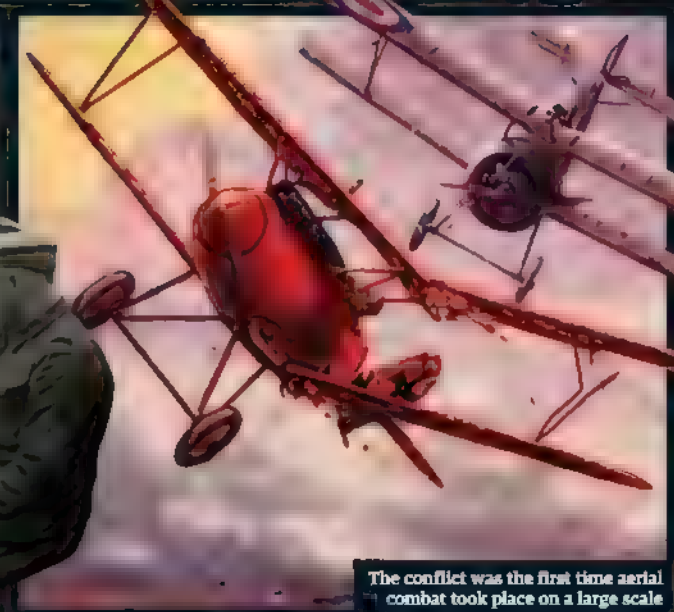
The end of WWI saw jubilant celebrations

The death toll in WWI was unparalleled at the time

British men wait their turn to sign-up to the Army, London, 1915



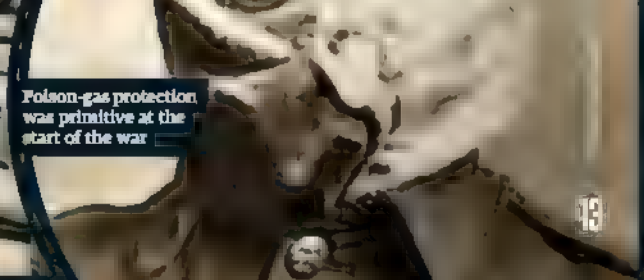
WWI was characterised by the long slog of trench warfare



The conflict was the first time aerial combat took place on a large scale

Life in the trenches for both sides was very hard – here a British solider eats his meagre dinner

The Dome in Brighton's Royal Pavilion was turned into a hospital for wounded Indian soldiers in WWI



Poison-gas protection was primitive at the start of the war

Hall of fame

10 KEY FIGURES FROM WWI

From the gleaming halls of the White House to the muddied trenches of the Somme, get to know ten significant players in the war to end all wars

WOODROW WILSON

AMERICAN 1856-1924

Wilson promised to keep the US out of the war but joined the fight after Germany ignored his protests and reinstated unrestricted submarine warfare. With the might of almost five million soldiers behind him, Wilson's decision to oppose Germany was a major boon to the Allied powers.

Wilson was the 28th president of the USA

Ferdinand Foch

FRENCH 1851-1929

Foch commanded the French Ninth Army to a famed victory at the Marne, boosting his reputation and earning him a promotion. He commanded the French forces at Ypres, Artois and the Somme. Foch became a scapegoat for the massive losses endured at the Somme and was briefly relieved of his command, only to be recalled in 1918 as supreme commander of the Allied forces. Eventually made marshall of France, Foch helped to secure the ultimate Allied victory

Paul von Hindenburg

GERMAN 1847-1934

Germany's most famed military commander in World War I, Hindenburg was called out of retirement to lead the Eighth Army in Prussia. He became a hero in Germany after victories against the Russians at Tannenburg and the Masurian Lakes. By 1914 he was in command of the Eastern Front and became chief of the greater German general staff in 1916. He helped orchestrate the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk with Russia and in 1918, when he concluded that Germany could not win, he advised the government to seek an armistice.

> "My centre is giving way, my right is in retreat; situation excellent. I shall attack"
>
> *Ferdinand Foch*

EDITH CAVELL

BRITISH 1865-1915

A British nurse, Cavell saved the lives of soldiers from both sides of the war and over 200 Allied soldiers escaped from occupied Belgium to neutral Netherlands due to her and others nurses' assistance. Known for saying, "Patriotism is not enough", German authorities became suspicious of the outspoken lady and arrested her on 3 August 1915. Charged with harbouring Allied soldiers, Cavell pleaded guilty and was executed by firing squad. There was worldwide condemnation of her execution and the date is still honoured as a feast day in the Anglican Church.

In 1917, funds raised by two newspapers in her memory were dedicated to the establishment of rest homes for nurses in England

Nicholas II

RUSSIAN 1868-1918

The last tsar of Russia, Nicholas confirmed the order for mobilisation of the Russian forces into the war despite being strongly counselled against doing so. In 1915 he made the catastrophic decision to take direct command of the Russian armies. After the Battle of Tannenberg, where the Russian army suffered a disastrous defeat, Nicholas's support at home and in the army plummeted and he was forced to abdicate. When the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk with Germany was signed in March 1918, civil war tore quickly across Russia and Nicholas II and his family were executed.

Nicholas became Tsar in 1894

Churchill received many war decorations including the Indian and Sudan medal

WINSTON CHURCHILL

BRITISH 1874-1965

Best known for his pivotal role in the Second World War when he rallied Europe against the Nazis, Churchill also played a significant part in the First World War. Beginning as the first lord of the admiralty, Churchill resigned from this position after the disastrous Gallipoli campaign, where 34,072 British soldiers lost their lives. After that he joined the army, commanding a battalion on the Western Front with his typical brand of daring leadership. Upon the instatement of David Lloyd George as prime minister, Churchill returned to cabinet as minister of munitions, a position created in the war to oversee and co-ordinate the production and distribution of weapons and ammunitions.

David Lloyd George

BRITISH 1863-1945

In December 1916, Lloyd George replaced Herbert Henry Asquith as prime minister. After issues with British generals, Lloyd George wished to bring the Allied forces together, pushing for the instatement of General Ferdinand Foch as commander of the Allied forces. Lloyd George also reinstated the Royal Navy to introduce the convoy system, which protected merchant ships from the deadly German submarines, helping to keep Allied supply lines open. Lloyd George served as Britain's chief delegate at the Paris Peace Conference contributing to the 1918 Treaty of Versailles.

Lloyd George remained PM until 1922

Manfred von Richthofen

GERMAN 1892-1918

Perhaps better known by his nickname, 'the Red Baron', Manfred von Richthofen was a German fighter pilot of the Imperial German Army Air Service. One of the most famous fighter pilots in history, he was a flying ace of the war credited with over 80 aerial victories, including British ace Major Lance Hawker. Regarded as a hero at home, and feared by his enemies, his nickname was inspired by the blazing red aircraft he manned – he began painting them this colour from 1917. He was shot when chasing a Sopwith Camel in 1918 over the Somme river and forced to make an emergency landing from which he didn't survive.

Von Richthofen initially joined a cavalry unit in 1911

popular culture from

incarnations

SIR DOUGLAS HAIG

BRITISH 1861-1928

Known as 'the Butcher of the Somme', Haig served as the British commander during the Battle of the Somme, the Third Battle of Ypres and the Hundred Days Offensive. With two million British casualties under his command, Haig was subjected to widespread criticism of his tactics and leadership. However, through August to November 1918, Haig led the Allied forces to a series of victories against the German army, which ultimately led to the end of the war.

servicemen until his death

Wilfred Owen

BRITISH 1893-1918

Owen was sent to the Western Front in January of 1917. After experiencing many traumatic experiences, he was diagnosed with shell-shock and admitted to Craigslockhart War Hospital in Edinburgh. He returned to France and was awarded the Military Cross for bravery, but was killed on 4 November 1918. Widely regarded as the leading poet of WWI, Owen's brutal realism stands in stark contrast to the patriotic writing of most early war poets. His best-known works include, *Dulce Et Decorum Est* and *Anthem For Doomed Youth*.

Owen's poems are still admired and studied to this day

Who did we miss out?

Let us know /AllAboutHistory @AboutHistoryMag

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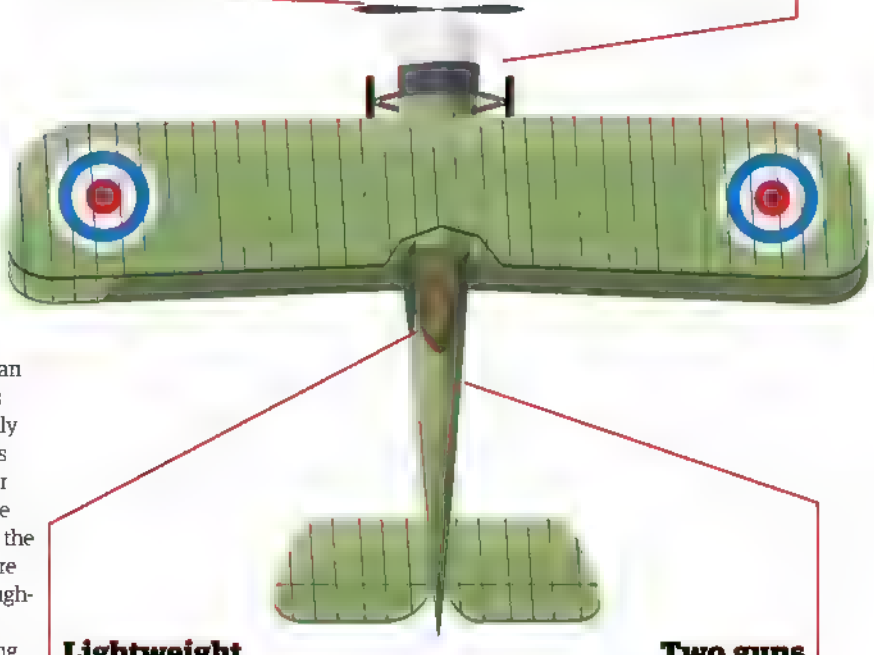
How to WIN A DOGFIGHT

EUROPE, 1914-1918

ENTER THE DANGER ZONE IN THE WORLD'S FIRST AERIAL BATTLES

Interruption gear
The propeller and guns are connected by a synchronisation gear, preventing the weapon from firing as the blades pass in front of them.

King of speed
A 130-hp engine enabled the Sopwith Camel to reach speeds of up to 185km/h (115mph), giving it an instant advantage in battle.



Lightweight
With only one occupant, single-seater craft were lighter and more agile in the air to perform daring manoeuvres during a fight.

Two guns
Twice the firepower meant twice the chance of hitting the target, with the Vickers .303s able to fire up to 450 rounds a minute each.

Buzzing high above the chaotic European battlefields of the Great War, the world's first fighter pilots were locked in a deadly battle of their own – to rule the skies. As each side devised new and ever-deadlier ways to outdo the other, faster and more precise aircraft were developed to push the limits of the aerial combatants, who were literally learning on the fly. Surviving high-altitude dogfights at break-neck speeds required lightning-fast reactions, cunning manoeuvres and nerves of steel. Many weren't up to the task, but for the ace pilots who mastered their craft, fame and glory were up in the sky for the taking.

5 FAMOUS AERIAL BATTLEFIELDS

SPANISH CIVIL WAR
1936-1939, SPAIN
The German Luftwaffe was able to test its pilots' mettle in support of the rebel nationalists, conducting numerous bombing raids and sorties.

THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN
1940, BRITISH ISLES
The fight for air superiority raged between the Luftwaffe and the RAF with almost certain invasion and British defeat at stake.

KOREAN WAR
1950-1953, KOREAN PENINSULA
The battle between the West and the East was played out in the skies over Korea, between Soviet MiGs and American F-86 Sabres.

VIETNAM WAR
1964-1975, VIETNAM
US air superiority enabled the use of helicopters to transport troops, as well as deadly bombing raids on reported Vietcong positions.

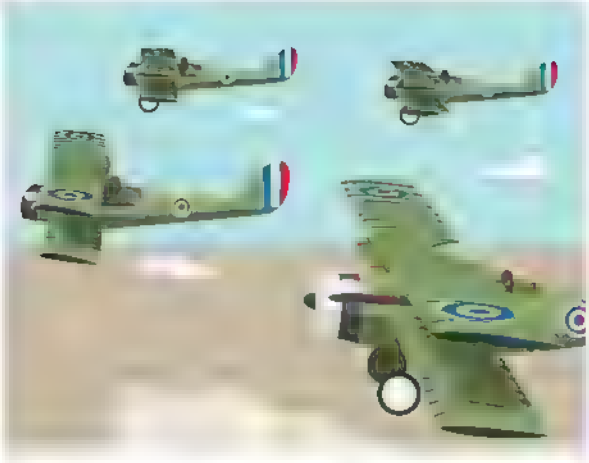
FALKLANDS WAR
1982, FALKLANDS ISLANDS
Argentine pilots, famed for their skill and daring, faced off against their British counterparts who flew Harrier Jump Jets.

01 Complete flight school
Before taking to the skies, a few lessons in advanced flight are advisable. The RAF's Central Flying School, founded in 1912, can provide just that. With a four-month course in flight theory, mechanics and tactics, as well as supervised lessons in the air, you will come away with a graduating certificate, but as few as three hours of actual flying experience.

02 Utilise the latest technology
The swiftly advancing air combat technology often means the difference between life and death. For example, the slow British B.E.2s are vulnerable to German Fokker Eindeckers with forward-firing machine guns. An interrupter gear prevents the weapon from firing as each of the blades moves across its path, keeping them safe from the bullets.

How not to... win a dogfight

One of the most effective and popular planes of WWI, yet incredibly difficult to handle, the British Sopwith Camel claimed over 1,300 combat victories during the war, as well as hundreds of its own inexperienced pilots through accidents. With an engine tuned for quick turning and 90 per cent of the plane's weight positioned toward the front end, the Sopwith was powerful but proved monstrously tricky to master. Many novices failed to even reach the skies, with the temperamental controls forcing the pilot to abort takeoff and often end up in an embarrassing position – with the plane's nose buried in the ground and the tail sticking into the air. In the event of a mid-air stall, the Sopwiths were known for quickly entering deadly spins toward the ground, spelling doom for the unfortunate pilot.



03 Go on patrol

Freshly arrived in France, within range of the front line, it's time to put theory into practice. Starting with scouting patrols, before long you'll be making incursions into enemy territory as part of a squad of up to six aircraft. Many British pilots lose their lives at the hands of their more experienced German counterparts, so keep your wits about you.

04 Engage the enemy

Single-seater scouts are tasked with locating enemy planes that larger, two-seater, 'pusher' craft can then attack. While you handle the manoeuvres, your observer is free to fire on the enemy with his Lewis or Parabellum gun. Earlier British machines were too heavy to carry a mounted machine gun, so observers had to use pistols, rifles or even shotguns.

05 Gain the upper hand

German fighter ace Oswald Boelcke literally wrote the book on aerial combat tactics. His *Dicta Boelcke* lists attacking from behind, keeping the Sun at your back to disorientate the opponent and always leaving a line of retreat clear to get back to safety. His rules are followed by the elite German Jastas, but have also been adapted by the British RFC.

06 Make aggressive manoeuvres

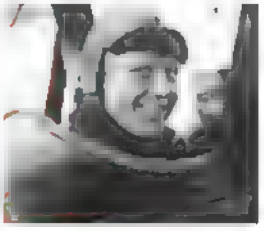
Knowing the best moves in the air is essential to keep up with the best. When attacking another aircraft, a quick Immelmann turn after the first pass can easily set you up for another attack. You need to set your craft into an incline after swooping in on the enemy, then turn a full 180 degrees, banking around and down into another killer descent on your opponent.

4 FAMOUS WWI ACE PILOTS

RAYMOND COLLISHAW

1893-1976, CANADA

Commander of the Black Flight squadron, Collishaw earned over 60 victories in the air.



LT MANFRED VON RICHTHOFEN

1892-1918, GERMANY

'The Red Baron' is one of the most famous ace pilots ever, having downed over 80 enemies.

MAJOR LANOE GEORGE HAWKER

1890-1916, GREAT BRITAIN

Hawker received the Victoria Cross for engaging three enemy aircraft armed only with a rifle.

LT MAX IMMELMANN

1890-1916, GERMANY

The man behind the manoeuvre, Immelmann's prowess earned him over 15 confirmed kills and a military honour, the Pour le Merite.

© Mary Evans, Edu Books

Day in the life

OF A BRITISH WORLD WAR I GENERAL

TRYING TO WIN A WAR OF UNPARALLELED PROPORTIONS EUROPE, 1914-1918

In a trope made popular by the television show *Blackadder*, the British WWI general is often viewed as an upper-class, moustached fool, far removed from the gritty fighting of their troops in the trenches. The phrase 'Lions led by donkeys' has been used to describe the incompetence of the generals who are blamed by many for the widespread deaths of the war. But just how realistic is this portrayal of the men in charge during the Great War? We take a look into a day in the life of an army general and see if there is any truth in this perception...

AWAKE COMFORTABLY

The classic image of the pompous generals conducting their business far from the dingy trenches isn't entirely untrue. The senior members of the army would not live in the trenches with their troops. The generals lived in châteaux, far removed from the squalid trench life. From their warm, dry beds, the generals enjoyed many luxuries their troops did not.

LEARN NEW TECHNIQUES

Previously the British generals had fought only small colonial wars, so in order to succeed they had to adapt to an entirely different mode of warfare. The generals were expected to keep abreast of new techniques recorded in three official manuals, such as *Instructions For The Training Of Divisions For Offensive Action*. These new cutting-edge methods included aerial power, tanks, gas and artillery.

CATCH UP ON PAPERWORK

With over 1,000 generals in the British Army, they were individually responsible for a variety of tasks. From acting as medical consultants, administrators and army commanders, a general's time was dedicated to a variety of roles under increasing pressure. Commander Douglas Haig, for example, was responsible for a number of roles, ranging from commanding the army to overseeing training and various administrative duties.

General Horne with a battalion at Dieval, France

VISIT THE TROOPS

'Daddy' Plumer was a favourite among his troops

Most generals visited the front line every day. This would boost the morale of the soldiers and allow the generals to get a first-hand view of the fighting. General Sir Herbert Plumer was so fondly regarded by his troops that he was nicknamed 'Daddy' Plumer. But this show of commitment came with a great degree of danger and four Allied generals were killed doing this.

COMMAND THE BATTLE

Thousands of soldiers across a vast area were awaiting orders from their commanders, making it impossible for generals to lead from the front line. Radio and telegraph were efficient but useless once men went over the trenches so instead runners and carrier pigeon were used to relay messages to the generals, who then made decisions based on this (often unreliable and outdated) information.

JOIN THE FIGHT

Due to limited communication, many generals joined their troops in battle. Generals often found themselves in the heat of the action, and in the Battle of Loos more generals lost their lives than in the entire Second World War. Major Frederick William Lumsden led his artillery and infantry teams under heavy fire to secure enemy guns and was awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions.

DIFFICULT DECISIONS

The classic image of the uncaring, incompetent general is an unfair generalization, but it's impossible to deny the disastrous errors made by some generals. Unprepared for a war of this magnitude and learning 'on the job', mistakes by those in command were inevitable. Infamous examples include Lieutenant General Stopford in Gallipoli and Major-General Townshend in the siege of Kut, whose mistakes cost thousands of men their lives.

PULL AN ALL-NIGHTER

The strain and pressure placed on the British WWI generals was immense, as they were mired in a wholly new type of war. They were working from limited or incorrect information and, employing new techniques on a grand scale, so commanding the Great War was a mammoth task. The private papers of some generals has shown that they did care deeply for their men and were greatly affected by the carnage of the war. It was not unusual for Allied generals and their staff to work through the night to ensure victory, which was finally achieved on 11 November 1918.

How do we know this?

The BBC website iWonder provides a look into the accusations steeped against WWI generals. *The Great War Generals On The Western Front* is a fantastic source of information for anyone interested in the life of British commanders, telling the stories of WWI battles through the generals' eyes and looking at the problems faced by them on a daily basis. *The Donkeys* is a controversial classic that contributed to the commonly held view of those in command.

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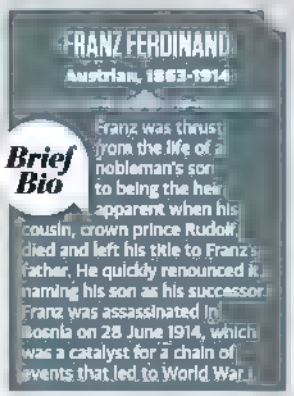
Top 5 facts FRANZ FERDINAND

ROYAL PRINCE OF AUSTRIA-HUNGARY AND BOHEMIA

AUSTRIA, 1863-1914


FRANZ FERDINAND
Austrian, 1863-1914
Brief Bio
Franz was thrust from the life of a nobleman's son to being the heir apparent when his cousin, crown prince Rudolf, died and left his title to Franz's father. He quickly renounced it, naming his son as his successor. Franz was assassinated in Bosnia on 28 June 1914, which was a catalyst for a chain of events that led to World War I.

01 IT WAS RUMOURED THAT HE WAS INSANE

Franz Ferdinand's public persona was cold and short-tempered and many felt he lacked the charisma required to rally people to his side. Persistent rumours spread that he was actually insane, mainly as a result of the excessive inbreeding of the Hapsburg family, which had been rife for hundreds of years, as well as because of a serious sickness he was struck by in his youth.

02 He killed over a quarter of a million animals

Being a crown prince of Bohemia gave Franz almost exclusive access to vast hunting grounds – and Franz was a zealous hunter. His diaries make note of around 300,000 kills of various game species, including 5,000 deer. Around 100,000 of these were stuffed and put on display in his Czech castle and he would request a hunting trip on every official excision. He often challenged sharpshooters to shooting contests and frequently won.

03 He was obsessed by the story of St George and the dragon

No doubt because of the passion he had for hunting and his love of antiques, Franz was obsessed with the symbolic patron saint of England and his fight with the dragon. He owned no less than 3,750 pieces of artwork, including sculptures and paintings, of Saint George and the dragon, proudly hung and displayed throughout his many properties.

04 He was an early property developer

Despite his wealth he was famously stingy and liked finding run-down properties in need of extensive repair that could then be sold for a profit. These houses often served as somewhere for him to keep his large collection of antiques and fine arts, which were purchased from around the world.

05 A pope argued for his marriage

As a member of the House of Hapsburg, rulers of the Holy Roman, Austro-Hungarian and Spanish Empires, he was expected to marry someone worthy of his station. However, he fell for Countess Sophia Chotek, who was not considered suitable. Franz wouldn't budge though and his father eventually relented and gave his blessing after letters from several European leaders, including Pope Leo XII.

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† Professor Beckett is not cited in the capacity of a health professional, but as a product inventor and former Chairman of Vitabiotics. *(IRI value data, 52 w/e 2 Nov 13).

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INSIDE HISTORY

TRENCH WARFARE

ADVANCING PAINFULLY SLOWLY IN THE SLOG OF WWI, FRANCE, 1914-1918

The assassination of Franz Ferdinand may have lit the touch paper for WWI but the conflict erupted due to a number of reasons, such as France and Russia forming a military alliance in 1894, which increased German isolation, and the second Balkan War. In the conflict, which lasted from 1914 to 1918, the countries were divided into two groups: the Allies, led by Great Britain, France and the United States, and the Central Powers, which included Germany, Austria-Hungary and Turkey. During the first years of the conflict, the armies stood still in trench lines or position wars. This caused the loss of thousands of lives and material resources as battles were often long affairs, such as the Battle of Verdun, which lasted a gruelling ten months.

Rearguard

The heavy artillery was commonly placed around 10km (6mi) away from the front line. It was moved forward as the infantry advanced.

Shell-shock

Millions of men suffered psychological trauma as a result of their war experience. For many a large part of this was caused by the all-too frequent artillery bombardments which dished out death seemingly at random and meant a soldier was never truly safe.

Fire power

Machine guns were fairly primitive weapons in 1914 but by the end of the conflict they had evolved rapidly and by 1918, they could spit out over a thousand small-calibre rounds per minute. These weapons had the power to turn the course of a battle.

The Voie Sacrée

This was the road that kept the French front line fully supplied. Between 3,000 and 3,500 trucks used it every day to transport soldiers, war supplies, food and to evacuate those who were injured.

Wire fences
The trenches were protected by long lines of wires with intertwined barbs. They constituted a great challenge for the advancement of the enemy infantry units and many men became tangled on them and provided their enemy with an easy target.

No-man's-land
This is the term used to describe the land between opposite enemy lines. It was frequently covered with mines and craters caused by bombs and as such was difficult to cross, which contributed to the lack of progress made by both sides.

Aviation
Planes frequently flew over trenches, whether firing at the enemy with machine guns or while engaged in a dogfight or a scouting mission.

Tunnels
Some German shelters were connected by tunnels that allowed the transportation of soldiers without the need to be exposed to enemy fire.

Front line
The first trench was usually the most dangerous one as it was closest to the action. Soldiers had to protect themselves from enemy fire and artillery.

Second trench
This served as a reserve for the front line. It used to have refuges located at a depth exceeding 10m (33ft) to bear the direct impact of heavy artillery.

© Solid Images

GOGGLES

A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES

Chlorine, phosgene, xylyl bromide, their nicknames and their variants, were all irritating to the eyes, whether that was the purpose of the poison gas or merely a by-product. After protecting the lungs from accidental inhalation, defending the eyes from temporary blindness so the soldiers weren't incapacitated, was vital. Early eye protection, however, was often little more than a pair of motorcycle goggles.

RESPIRATOR BOX

BREATHE EASY

Air filtration became more sophisticated as the war went on and technology developed. A more advanced version of the respirator incorporated a charcoal filter that the tainted air passed through, followed up by gauze impregnated with neutralising agents, before the purified air fed up to the nozzle for the soldier to breathe. In Britain, early gas-mask designs actually killed more soldiers by suffocation than they saved.

MAUSER RIFLE

GEWEHR LEGACY

The Mauser Gewehr 88 Bolt-Action Service Rifle was an improvement on the previous 1871 model whose bolt handle had an unfortunate habit of snagging - which could prove fatal in the heat of battle. The 'Gew 88' was used until 1915, when an upgrade in the form of the Gewehr 98 was commissioned. This was a much improved rifle that remained in service for both World Wars.

PICKELHAUBE

BECAME POINTLESS

Originally designed by King Frederick William IV of Prussia in 1842, this helmet was used by the German police, fire service and military. In the early part of World War I, it soon became apparent that the construction of the helmet and distinctive spike was impractical for modern warfare. The spike was made detachable and from 1916, a standard steel helmet - sans spike - gradually replaced the pickelhaube.

PAD RESPIRATOR

THE FRONT LINE IN CHEMICAL PROTECTION

Early gas protection for both Allies and German troops was often little more than a handkerchief held to the mouth and being advised to close your eyes. Fortunately for some, the earliest gas attacks were a debilitating but nonlethal lachrymator (tear gas). This was quickly followed up by deadly chlorine and eventually, the particularly nasty mustard gas. Germany's gas-mask design evolved so that the 1917 model, the Ledershutzmaske GM17, was made of oiled sheep's leather treated with chemicals to neutralise the gas, an air filter around the nose and reinforced celluloid eyepieces.

THE Anatomy of

A GERMAN WWI SOLDIER

POISON GAS PROTECTION
1915, BELGIUM

BELL

A DEATH TOLL

In the murk and confusion of battle, there was little other way to warn the troops in their trench position that a gas attack was incoming - or was already spreading - than ringing a bell. Contrary to popular belief, it was the French and not the Germans who first used poison gas in WWI, although Germany had much bigger and deadlier plans afoot for chemical warfare.

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A history of WWI

THE ASSASSINATION OF FRANZ FERDINAND

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA 28 JUNE 1914

After Bosnia and Herzegovina were annexed by the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Franz Ferdinand, the heir of the empire, travelled to Sarajevo to inspect the army. A Serbian nationalist group, called The Black Hand, conspired to supply seven young students with weapons for an assassination of Ferdinand. After a failed assassination attempt, the Archduke decided to return home via a different route, but nobody told the driver. As the car stopped to turn, Gavrilo Princip, one of the conspirators, spotted the car and shot. By 11.30am, Prince Ferdinand had bled to death.

A depiction of Franz Ferdinand's assassination

German U-boat Campaign

ATLANTIC OCEAN, NORTH SEA AND MEDITERRANEAN SEA

28 JULY 1914 - 11 NOVEMBER 1918

The U-boat Campaign was an effort by the German military to destroy the trade routes of the Entente Powers. With the British Empire relying heavily on imports for food and supplies, the German U-boats were commanded to sink all Allied or neutral ships on sight. This led to the sinking of almost 5,000 ships and pushed Prime Minister Lloyd George to order an armed navy convoy for all ships carrying provisions, equipment or weapons to the British Isles.

A British propaganda poster from WWI

WWI timeline

Austria declares war
Blaming the Serbian government for Franz Ferdinand's assassination, Austria Hungary formally declares war on Serbia.
28 June 1914

Franz Ferdinand

Britain declares war on Germany
Germany refuses to withdraw from neutral Belgium and as a result Britain declares war on Germany
4 August 1914

The Battle of Tannenberg
The Russian army march into Prussia, but struggle to get supplies through, suffering a crushing defeat to the Germans.
26 August 1914

Hindenburg at Tannenfeld

The sinking of the Lusitania
RMS Lusitania, a ship carrying 139 American passengers, is sunk in the German U-boat Campaign, prompting furious protests from the US.
7 May 1915

RMS Lusitania

Churchill resigns
In response to the bloodshed at Gallipoli, Winston Churchill resigns as first lord of the admiralty. He returns to the army as a battalion commander
May 1915

1914 — 1915

Germany declares war on Russia
Germany offers support to Austro-Hungarians and Russia, allied with Serbia, mobilises. In response, Germany declares war on Russia.
1 August 1914

Germany invades
Germany declares war on France and implements the Schlieffen Plan, invading Belgium. Britain orders Germany to withdraw.
3 August 1914

A strategic meeting in WWI

Turkey joins the war
Turkey enters the war on the side of the Germans and contributes forces to a naval bombardment of Russia.
29 October 1914

Turkish leader Kemal Pasha

Second Battle of Ypres
Germany unleashes poison gas en masse for the first time – banned under the Hague Convention – claiming thousands of casualties. The Germans were surprised by the effectiveness of the new weapon and thus didn't fully exploit the situation.
21 April - 25 May 1915

Germany limits submarines
In an effort to keep the USA out of the war, Kaiser Wilhelm suspends unrestricted submarine warfare.
18 September 1915

The LZ 18 Zeppelin, the largest one ever, caught fire in October 1913, before entering service

The Zeppelin raids

ENGLAND DECEMBER 1914 - AUGUST 1918

Named after its German inventor Ferdinand von Zeppelin, the zeppelin was a balloon-like airship with a covered metal frame used by the German forces throughout the war. These 'blimps' were used for naval reconnaissance but were made infamous for their use in strategic bombing raids against England. Nicknamed 'baby-killers', these airships made 51 bombing raids, killing 557 people and injuring another 1,358, most of whom were civilians. Amassing a total of £1.5 million in damage, the Zeppelin raids finally came to a stop with the introduction of aeroplanes, which could shoot them down with relative ease.

Conditions in WWI trenches were squalid

The Battle of Verdun

FRANCE 21 FEBRUARY - 18 DECEMBER 1916

In response to the increasing threat of German invasion, the French attempted to build an impassable line of sunken forts extending from the Swiss frontier to the French city of Verdun. The Battle of Verdun was a German campaign to 'bleed the French dry.' Germany was successful in claiming the French forts but quickly became distracted by the British attack on the Somme and the Russian offensive in the East, allowing France to reclaim the forts. Nine months later, with enormous casualties on both sides, neither force had gained a real strategic advantage.

The Battle of Gallipoli

SANJAK OF GELIBOLU 25 APRIL 1915 - 9 JANUARY 1916

After a Russian appeal for aid, the British launched an expedition to take the Gallipoli Peninsula, hoping that by doing so they would knock Turkey out of the war. The campaign was a fiasco, as the Turkish repelled the Allied forces from fortified high ground, amassing huge numbers of casualties on both sides - 252,000 Allied and 218,000 Ottoman. After months of fighting and no gains on either side, the British forces withdrew. This disastrous campaign badly tarnished Winston Churchill and Field Marshall Lord Kitchener's reputations.

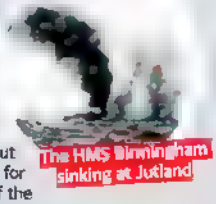
The HMS Irresistible abandoned on 18 March 1915

THE BATTLE OF THE SOMME

FRANCE 1 JULY - 18 NOVEMBER 1916

Fought between the armies of Britain and France against the German Empire, this five-month battle took place on either side of the river Somme in Northern France. Originally planned as a battle of attrition, the German Verdun offensive prompted the date of the planned attack to be brought forward. Although the numbers were highly in their favour, the Allies failed to destroy the German barbed wire and concrete bunkers, transforming no man's land into a mess of mud and craters. As the infantry pushed forward, the Germans manned their machine guns and picked off the soldiers with ease. One of the bloodiest battles in history, the Battle of the Somme claimed the lives of over 420,000 British, 200,000 French and 500,000 German soldiers. Gaining the Allies just 12 kilometres (7.5 miles) of ground, Sir Douglas Haig's decisions during the battle are still a source of great controversy today.

- **The Battle of Jutland**
  Although the British suffer heavy losses, the German Navy is largely put out of operation for the remainder of the war after this battle.
  31 May 1916



The HMS Birmingham sinking at Jutland

- **USA declares war**
  In response to the sinking of more US ships by the German U-boats, the United States join the fight against Germany.
  6 April 1917

Captured U-boats in Trondheim, Norway

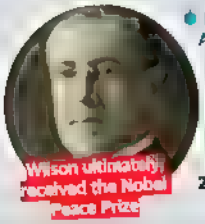
- **Battle of Cambrai**
  Utilising tank warfare, the British artillery penetrate the German Hindenburg Line. These tactics will play a large part in the fighting throughout 1918.
  20 November - 7 December 1917

The Battle of Cambrai

- **Hindenburg Line collapses**
  After a 56-hour long bombardment, the Allied forces break through the last line of German defences on the Western Front, the Hindenburg Line.
  29 September 1918
- **Kaiser Wilhelm II abdicates**
  Faced with a German revolution, Kaiser Wilhelm resigns as emperor of the German Empire and king of Prussia.
  9 November 1918

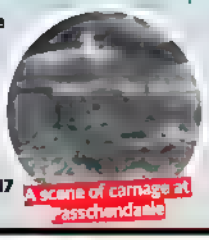
Kaiser Wilhelm II

1916 | 1917 | 1918 | 1919



Wilson ultimately received the Nobel Peace Prize

- **Important telegraph**
  American President Woodrow Wilson is given the Zimmerman Telegraph by British intelligence. It urges Mexico to side with Germany, promising US territory in return.
  25 February 1917
- **Battle of Passchendaele**
  Acting against the wishes of British PM David Lloyd George, Douglas Haig leads an offensive to reach the Belgian coast. Heavy losses result on both sides.
  31 July - 6 November 1917



A scene of carnage at Passchendaele

- **The Treaty of Brest-Litovsk**
  The Russians sign an armistice with Germany, ending their involvement in the war. The terms are harsh, with Russia surrendering Poland and Ukraine.
  5 December 1917
- **Turkey makes peace**
  Known as the 'Armistice of Moudros', the hostilities in the Middle Eastern theatre come to an end as the Turks finally ask for an armistice.
  30 October 1918
- **The Treaty of Versailles signed**
  Five years to the day after Ferdinand's assassination, the Treaty of Versailles is signed between the Allied powers and Germany.
  28 June 1919

Lloyd George becomes Prime Minister

GREAT BRITAIN 7 DECEMBER 1916

After becoming critical of Prime Minister Asquith after repeated military failures in the war, and with the support of the conservative and labour leaders, Lloyd George became the Liberal wartime prime minister. His concentrated wartime cabinet meet every day increasing the pace of action during the war. Lloyd George was highly untrusting of his war secretary, Douglas Haig, who he accused of needlessly sacrificing lives. He agreed to the instatement of French Marshall Ferdinand Foch as supreme commander of all Allied forces, which he hoped would limit Haig's power. Lloyd George's determination to achieve unity of military control among the Allies is regarded to have had a great influence over their victory.

David Lloyd George became Britain's prime minister during WWI

RAF formed

GREAT BRITAIN 1 APRIL 1918

Comprised of the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Naval Air Service, the RAF was formed to combine the strengths of both organisations. The RAF were involved in major offensives on the Western Front. Now the world's oldest independent air force, the RAF served a vital part of military operations throughout WWII and up to the modern day.

Armistice of Compiègne

FRANCE 11 NOVEMBER 1918

Finally putting a stop to the fighting in Western Europe, this agreement ended the First World War. Now celebrated as Armistice Day the cease-fire commenced on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. The terms of the armistice were mainly written by the French Marshal Ferdinand Foch and included the withdrawal of German troops and exchange of prisoners.

Foch (second from right), and others at Compiègne

DISCOVER

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What if...

Napoleon had won the Battle of Waterloo?

WATERLOO, 18-19 JUNE 1815

Written by Jack Parsons

ALAN FORREST

Alan Forrest is currently professor of modern history at the University of York. He has written widely on French revolutionary and Napoleonic history. His books include *Napoleon's Men: The Soldiers Of The Revolution And Empire* and a biography simply called *Napoleon*. He is currently writing a book on the Battle of Waterloo for Oxford University Publishing's Great Battles series, released for the battle's bicentenary in 2015.

MARK ADKIN

Mark Adkin is a military historian who took up writing after serving in the British Army for 18 years and over ten years working in the Colonial Service in the Pacific. He is the author of *The Waterloo Companion: The Complete Guide To World's Most Famous Land Battle*, and has more recently written *The Western Front Companion*. He also wrote *The Sharpe Companion*, which placed Bernard Cornwell's Sharpe novels in historical context.

What would have happened if Napoleon had won the Battle of Waterloo?

Alan Forrest: He would certainly have taken Brussels and he might have tried to advance toward the boundary of the Rhine and Schelt. But there was no possibility of long-term success. He would surely have gone on to lose within weeks or months, because although the British, Dutch, Belgians and Prussians were involved at Waterloo, neither the Austrians nor the Russians were, and they had armies of 150,000 to 200,000 waiting in the wings. In particular, the Tsar wanted Napoleon destroyed, he didn't believe Europe could remain at peace if Napoleon remained at large.

Mark Adkin: I wouldn't have thought [that Napoleon would have enjoyed success for] more than a few weeks. If he had won the battle, Wellington would have withdrawn what was left of his army and Napoleon would have had to hurry back to Paris. The Allies would have waited until the Austrians and Russians had arrived and the British and Prussians had recovered, then would have teamed up together. Napoleon wouldn't have had much chance at all.

Why did Napoleon lose at Waterloo?

Adkin: Napoleon had a big problem because he was surrounded by various countries that were desperate to get rid of him. There were four main threats once he established himself back in Paris: The Anglo-Dutch Army under Wellington in Belgium, the Prussians under Blücher in Germany, the Russians under Barclay De Tolly and the Austrians under Schwarzenberg. That's nearly half million men under arms and they all planned to converge on Paris. The only way he could possibly win was to make the maximum use of the time it was going to take Russians and the Austrians and so on to get there. While they were marching, he had to deal with the others, in particular Wellington and Blucher. He wanted to defeat the Prussians at Ligny, while Wellington was held off by a smaller force. Once the Prussians were defeated, he could turn the combined strength on Wellington. He succeeded partially at Ligny - his strategy worked and he split the two Allies, turned on the Prussians and defeated them, but he didn't crush them. He let them withdraw and recover. That was a mistake. Napoleon allowed them to withdraw north instead of east, and by withdrawing north they were able to turn and then rejoin Wellington's forces.

Forrest: Napoleon had no possibility of finding large numbers of additional soldiers because he was now reliant on the French population alone, and while he was on Elba, France had abolished conscription. As long as the Allies could unite their forces against him, he was hopelessly outnumbered, and his failure to drive home his advantage after Ligny proved to be a fatal mistake.

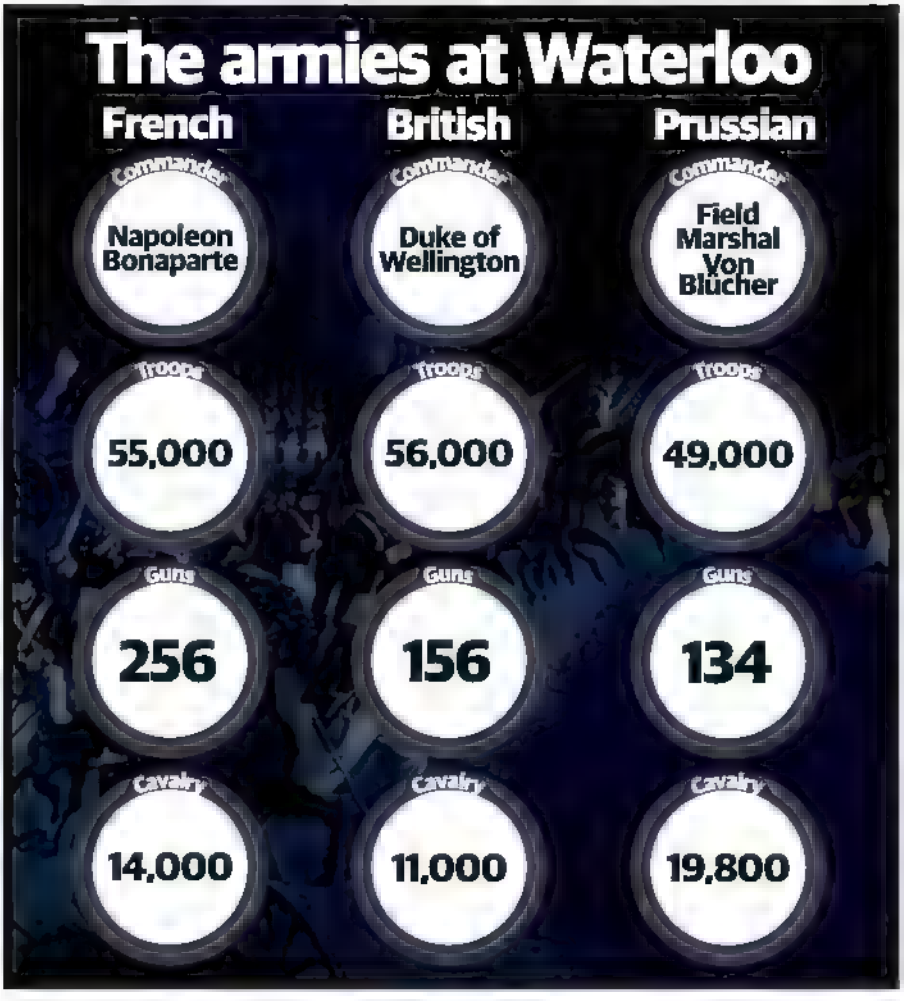
So if Napoleon had stopped the Prussians at Ligny, he would have defeated the British at Waterloo?

Adkin: Wellington knew the Prussians were coming; he had been promised that they were coming, which is the actual reason why he stood at Waterloo and defended that bridge. If he knew the Prussians were not coming, then he would probably have withdrawn until he could join the Prussians and therefore the battle would not have taken place, not there anyway. So the crucial thing is the Prussians and their arrival clinched it [the battle].

> “They had to be sure France would be a responsible member of the international community. They had to get rid of Napoleon”

Even if Napoleon had won at Waterloo it is likely Paris would have been taken and the great general would have been executed

NAPOLEON HAD WON THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO?



Did the people of France support Napoleon's return from Elba?

Forrest: The most important thing to remember is that the French people were war-weary in 1815; they wanted peace above all else and few believed Napoleon could deliver that. On the other hand, there was no enthusiasm for the Bourbons and certainly no desire to go back to the Ancien Regime. The fear was that the Bourbons would try to restore the kind of aristocratic and clerical authority that had existed previously. Napoleon had surrounded himself with luxury and riches at the height of the empire, but when he returned from Elba in 1815 he sought to present himself as the little corporal of the army who had risen through talent to be its commander, but who remained essentially a man of the people, true to the ideals of the Revolution of 1789. This proved a clever tactic.

Adkin: Most of the old soldiers were tremendously loyal to Napoleon. Napoleon had raised the standing of the ordinary French soldier during all those campaigns. He was extremely generous and gave them good pay. When he came back from Elba, I think thousands of these men, who had been thrown out of the army by the Bourbons coming back, had nothing and were no longer the number-one citizens like they used to be, so they rejoined Napoleon in their thousands.

If he abandoned his imperial ambitions, could Napoleon have negotiated to stay in power in France rather than the Allies restoring the Bourbons again?

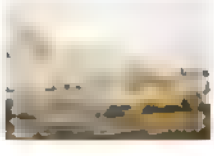
Adkin: He tried to at the beginning, after escaping from Elba. He tried then to convince the European powers he wanted to avoid war and that he renounced all claims to Belgium, Holland, Germany and Poland. He was unsuccessful, of course.

Forrest: This was never realistic. Russia wouldn't allow it and I'm not sure that Britain would, either. Britain did, however, want France to remain a viable European power since it was an important part of the balance of power structure on which peace depended. Britain was aware of the possibility of a rampant nationalistic Prussia and was very aware of the threat posed by Russia, especially in the Balkans and the eastern Mediterranean. Britain particularly needed to

"Most of the old soldiers were tremendously loyal to Napoleon [...] he gave them good pay"

How would it be different?

The Waterloo Campaign
Napoleon battles the Prussians at Ligny as marshal Michel Ney and Wellington fight the inconclusive Battle of Quatre Bras. The battle with the Prussians was vital as if Napoleon won he could concentrate on the British
16-18 June 1815



Napoleon abdicates
After being defeated by the Allies of the Sixth Coalition, Napoleon is exiled to the island of Elba. The pre-revolutionary Bourbon monarchy is restored and Louis XVIII becomes King of France.
11 April 1814

Real timeline

1813

Battle of Leipzig
Napoleon is decisively beaten in battle for the first time, by a coalition including troops from Russia, Prussia, Austria and Sweden. He is forced to return to France but the coalition continues to pursue him.
16 October 1813

Beginning of Napoleon's Hundred Days
Napoleon escapes Elba and after landing on the French mainland convinces the regiment sent to intercept him to join him and march on Paris. As he moves north, more soldiers defect to join him. King Louis XVIII flees to the Netherlands.
26 February 1815

Congress of Vienna
Representatives of Austria, Britain, France, Russia, and Prussia declare Napoleon an outlaw, marking the beginning of the War of the Seventh Coalition.
13 March 1815

Real timeline

Alternate timeline

Napoleon defeats Wellington
After defeating the Prussians, Napoleon waits for the battleground to dry before manoeuvring artillery and cavalry to attack the Anglo-Army at Waterloo. Facing substantial loss of life, Wellington retreats to the British garrison in Brussels.
18-19 June 1815

maintain lines of communication with India. Remember that Britain was an emerging global power in 1815 and that the Russians were aware of that. So they needed to protect France's position, but that also meant that they had to be sure France would be a responsible member of the international community. For that reason they had to get rid of Napoleon. It didn't really matter who else was there, the Bourbons would do, but they were sure that they did not want Napoleon to play that role

Napoleon was exiled to the Italian island of Elba but returned to Paris and declared himself emperor

If they wouldn't accept him as a ruler of France, would the Allies have still exiled him to St Helena and risk him escaping again?

Forrest: Napoleon himself was much more terrified after Waterloo of falling into the hands of the Bourbons, who might have done just that. He chose to surrender to the English in the hope that he would be allowed to live as a prisoner under house arrest in England, in other words, the British would treat him decently, with a modicum of respect. As we know, the British rejected that option and exiled him to St Helena, a remote island in the South Atlantic, far removed from Europe, from which there was little possibility he could escape. In France he could have faced a trial for treason and possible execution, as happened with Michel Ney and others of Napoleon's loyal lieutenants. But that course was not without its dangers. The regime would have risked turning Napoleon into a political martyr and, given the devotion in which he was held by his followers, it surely would have got one. I think you could make the point that the Allies had to deal with Napoleon a little delicately in 1815, because there was a real danger that they would create a martyr in the process dividing French opinion and risking lasting instability

If France did destabilise and wasn't able to balance power in Europe, how would this change history?

Forrest: Britain becomes the dominant world power of the 19th century which is what did happen anyway. The next challenge, except for the colonial wars in China and so on, is going to be the Crimean War, which essentially means that the balance of power that was established with events in 1815 more or less holds

Have your say

Do you agree with our expert's view?

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- **Wellington defeats Napoleon**
  Napoleon attempts to wipe out Wellington's centre troops with attacks before the Prussians arrive. However, he engages too late after waiting for the ground to dry and Blucher arrives. Napoleon retreats.
  19 June 1815
- **Paris turns on Napoleon**
  Napoleon returns to the capital in defeat three days after Waterloo to find the public no longer support national resistance. While his brother Lucien believes he can still seize power by dissolving the parliament, Napoleon senses the change and abdicates his throne in favour of his son.
  22 June 1815
- **Napoleon sent to St Helena**
  Napoleon is banished to the remote island of St Helena without any of the perks he enjoyed on Elba. He dies of natural causes in 1821.
  23 October 1815
- **Michel Ney executed**
  Napoleon's long-time ally and marshal at the Battle of Waterloo, Michel Ney is executed as a warning to Napoleon's supporters.
  7 December 1815
- **Austro-Russian invasion**
  The Austrian and Russian armies combined siege of Paris overwhelms the French, with Barclay de Tolly drawing on his experiences of capturing the city in 1814.
  July 1815
- **Hundred Days ends**
  After the president of the provisional government intimates he should leave Paris, Napoleon exits the capital. Soon after Graf von Zieten's Prussian I Corps enters Paris and defeat the French. Louis XVIII is restored.
  8 July 1815
- **Napoleon surrenders**
  After the British Navy blocks his attempt to take a ship to America, Napoleon surrenders himself to Captain Frederick Maitland of HMS Bellerophon and is transported to England.
  15 July 1815
- **Emperor again**
  Returning triumphant to Paris Napoleon is unopposed as he dissolves parliament and assumes dictatorial powers to better defend Paris from attack.
  21 June 1815
- **Napoleon executed**
  After his surrender the Allies allow Louis XVIII to execute Napoleon as they believe he is a threat to Europe's peace. However, the move divides France and Napoleon becomes a martyr
  July 1815
- **The Bonaparte Spring**
  Bonapartists inspired by Napoleon's promises of constitutional reform during his Hundred Days are outraged at his execution and protest against Bourbon rule in Paris.
  15 July 1815
- **Outbreak of civil war**
  Disillusioned Napoleonic generals and officials seize on pro-Bonaparte feeling amongst the masses to make a grab for power Events escalate and civil war erupts across France.
  September 1815
- **Rise of the British Empire**
  Britain seizes abandoned French colonies and with a self-destructing France unable to balance European power, the Crimean War between Britain and Russia is possibly hastened.
  Mid-19th century

© Arms Akry

Bluffer's Guide
French Revolution

FRANCE, 1787-1799

When did it take place?

The Revolution was mostly fought on the streets of Paris, with revolutionaries storming the Bastille for weapons and the Palace of Versailles to capture the king. However, pockets of resistance also exploded in the countryside as peasants torched their landlords' manor houses, angry at unfair feudal contracts.

What was it?

The years between 1787 and 1799 saw French people rise up and overthrow King Louis XVI. The aftermath saw social and political change as the people embraced democracy. However, in-fighting between political factions led to thousands being executed at the guillotine and Napoleon seizing power.

Who did it involve?

Prior to the Revolution, Louis XVI was instructed by the Estates-General. The First Estate represented the clergy, the Second the nobility, and the Third the rest of France. In 1789 believing they were inadequately represented, the Third Estate declared themselves the National Assembly in open revolt of the king, pledging to create a new constitution for France.

Storming the Bastille

On 14 July 1789, the people of Paris were afraid that the king's army had been ordered to attack them. They armed themselves and marched to the Bastille, a royal fort used as a prison, in search of gunpowder. Though the Bastille was poorly manned, the capture of it proved the people were serious about change. The Revolution had begun.

Year One

To make a break from the past, a radical new calendar was introduced. The months were renamed and organised into ten-day weeks so every month was exactly 30 days long. The first date was 21 September 1792, or 1 Vendémiaire Year 1, when the monarchy was abolished.

Badge of the French guards, conquerors of the Bastille

The guillotine

Anywhere from 15,000 to 50,000 French citizens were guillotined during the nine months known as The Terror in 1794. Introduced as a painless alternative to the king's torturous Breaking Wheel, the device became a symbol of the French Revolution's descent into violence after a paranoid Maximilien de Robespierre beheaded anyone suspected of political subversion. Robespierre himself was guillotined on 28 July 1794.

The guillotine was France's standard method of judicial execution until the abolition of capital punishment in 1981

Declaration of the Rights of Man

Inspired by the US Declaration of Independence, in 1789 the National Assembly issued the Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen. This guaranteed due process in courts and extended the right to vote to all property-owning men over the age of 25, giving the middle class a voice for the first time.

"Let them eat cake"

While this famous phrase is commonly attributed to King Louis XVI's wife, Marie Antoinette and is used as an example of how uncaring the French monarchy were to the poverty and hunger of their people, it's unlikely that she actually said it. The only contemporary reference to the dismissive response to bread shortages can be found in the autobiographical confessions of the French philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau, who claims it was said by a "great princess."

Marie Antoinette was executed on 16 October 1793

Key figures

Jacques-Pierre Brissot
1754-1793
Leader of the moderate Girondins, Brissot believed in a constitutional monarchy.

Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette
1757-1834
He wrote early drafts of the Declaration of the Rights of Man.

Maximilien Robespierre
1758-1794
Leader of the radical Jacobins, Robespierre famously sent thousands to the guillotine.

Napoleon Bonaparte
1769-1821
A charismatic young general from Corsica, Bonaparte became a national hero for his military successes.

Louis XVI
1754-1793
The deposed King of France, renowned for enjoying royal extravagance, while incapable of managing France's rising debts.

Major events

Financial crisis
1787
As France faces bankruptcy, peasants starve because they can't afford bread while nobles enjoy a lavish lifestyle.

The Tennis Court Oath
20 June 1789
The members of the Third Estate declare themselves the new National Assembly.

Power to the people
26 August 1789
France remains a constitutional monarchy, but all power is transferred to the elected National Assembly.

The Reign of Terror
1793-1794
The Jacobins declare France a republic, guillotining the king as well as thousands of others for being 'counter-revolutionaries.'

Napoleon rising
9 November 1799
Seizing control in the power vacuum, Bonaparte leads a military coup, installing himself as 'first consul' of France.

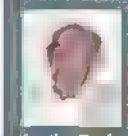
© Alamy; Topfoto

Eye Witness

FIFA WORLD CUP FINAL, LONDON, 30 JULY 1966

Written by Frances White

DR NEIL PHILLIPS



From 1962 to 1974, Dr Neil Phillips was a key member of Sir Alf Ramsey's backroom staff for the England national football team. Trained as a sports-medicine doctor, Phillips worked closely with the squad leading up to the 1966 World Cup in England and accompanied them to the fateful and emotional final match against West Germany on 30 July 1966.

> "The whole atmosphere of the country on that day was amazing. Going on the coach to Wembley the roads were jam packed"

The date is 30 July 1966, a day that will be forever remembered in England as the day football came home. Crowds flood the streets of London as people line the streets, hoping to get a glimpse of the coach housing the winning players and management team. As the celebrations become increasingly frenetic a practicing GP and a man who admits that cricket is actually his sport sits with the world champions on the coach, behind manager Alf Ramsey, whom he casually chats to on a day that will go down in the nation's history

Dr Neil Phillips found his way into the world of football medicine after a fateful encounter with Walter Winterbottom, the first England manager. Impressed by his aptitude for sports medicine after he treated a member of the England under-23 team, Winterbottom sent him to do an appraisal of the FA medical course incognito. After Phillips handed in the report he assumed that was the end of it, but while working in his surgery in 1962 he recalls that he received a call from a man whose name he immediately recognized. "My name is Ramsey, Alf Ramsey. I'm the manager of the England national football team. We haven't met but I've heard a lot about you and I wonder if you'd be a doctor to the England under-23 team?" Phillips accepted and when he finally met Ramsey they "got on like a house on fire."

It wasn't all sweetness and light, though, as the game was undergoing a dramatic change. "The environment at that time surrounding the England football team was hostile to say the least," Phillips explains. "Alf Ramsey was the first manager of the England team to pick it. Up until the time Alf Ramsey was appointed the team was picked by the FA directors." Ramsey's determination in having total control over his team had created an atmosphere of tension: "What made Alf's appointment so hostile was that he said, 'I pick the team, nobody else, and I don't want the Football Association directors involved in the picking of the team'", recalls Phillips

This change meant that directors who had become accustomed to five-star treatment lost all their luxuries, power, and, crucially for Phillips, they wouldn't agree to the appointment of doctors to the team. Ramsey was honest with the doctor, saying: "Look, they don't want you, but I want you. I want you to come and be part of the team." Because of the hostility surrounding the squad, Phillips discovered he wouldn't be paid, but Ramsey insisted on his instatement. Phillips accepted and became a crucial member of England's backroom staff from 1962 to 1974

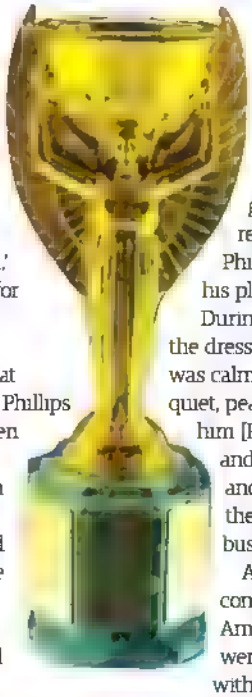
Juggling a full-time job as a GP Phillips took time off as holiday to be with the team during their preparations for the tournament and spent two weeks with the players. Eager to achieve total unity within his team, Ramsey encouraged his backroom staff to follow the players' schedule exactly, "I had to do everything the players did. If they went to the pictures, I went to the pictures, if they went for a walk, I went for a walk." This created a solid close-knit squad, and when captain Bobby Moore was asked about the doctor at a press conference, he replied, "The doc? He's just part of the squad."

Timeline of a sporting victory

CST

- 1.00pm — **The England team travel from Hedon Hall Hotel to Wembley Stadium by coach.**
- 3.00pm — **England win the toss and kick off the match.**
- 3.12pm — **Siegfried Held scores the first goal of the match, putting Germany in the lead.**
- 3.45pm — **Half-time**
  The teams are level. Alf Ramsey has a quiet word with his team in the dressing room.
- 4.39pm — **Germany equalise**
  In the last minute of the game, Wolfgang Weber scores and sends the game into extra time. A controversial handball by Karl-Heinz Schnellinger is ignored.
- 4.51pm — **The controversial goal**
  11 minutes into extra time Russian linesman Tofik Bakhramov awards a goal to England, but the ball never crosses the line.
- 5.11pm — **They think it's all over**
  In the 120th minute of the game Hurst scores his third goal and England's fourth. The whistle blows and England are declared the champions.
- 5.20pm — **Queen Elizabeth hands Bobby Moore the Jules Rimet Cup, he lifts it above his head to thunderous applause.**
- 7.00pm — **The squad leaves the stadium; huge crowds line the street to cheer as the coach carrying them drives past.**
- 8.00pm — **The team and backroom staff celebrate the victory with a banquet in their honour at the prestigious Royal Garden Hotel Kensington.**

"It was absolutely phenomenal; it really was an experience you would never ever forget"



Ramsey was supremely confident in his team and believed they would win the World Cup. Phillips recalls that before the tournament even began, "Alf said to Wilf McGuinness [the former Manchester United player and member of England's backroom staff] and I, 'When we get to the final, I'll give you a ring and invite you both down.' We said, 'That'll never happen.' And he said, 'Don't you worry I will send for you and you'll come down to the final.'"

Phillips' doubts were unfounded as the England team secured a place in the final at Wembley. Just like Ramsey had promised, Phillips was going to be there for the big day. "When England got to the final, I got a telephone call from Alf saying, 'We've booked a room for you in London, we want you to come down a few days before, and we've booked a room for your wife to come down for the celebration after we've won it.'"

The practicing GP travelled to London before the final and stayed in Hendon Hall Hotel with the team. On the morning of the match he met with the players and they travelled together to the stadium by coach. Phillips recalls the electrified mood, "The whole atmosphere of the country on that day was amazing. Going in the coach to Wembley, it was absolutely jam packed with people on both sides of the road all the way to the stadium." Phillips watched in awe as hundreds of people cheered the coach as it passed from Hendon to Wembley Stadium.

The equipment at Wembley was a far cry from what footballers and backroom staff enjoy today. "There was no medical room", Phillips explains. "We used to have a card table and put the instruments out on the card table in case anyone needed to be stitched up." Phillips recalls one particular instance while preparing the team for the World Cup, where the team didn't even have a medical bag and he had to go to a local chemists shop to buy plasters and bandages for the team.

On the day of the final, Phillips accompanied the players onto the pitch before the match, helping them prepare them for the biggest game of their lives. When the players were ready to go out to start the match, Ramsey gave Phillips a ticket for the director's box and he took his place next to Winterbottom as the game began. During half-time, Phillips left his seat and went into the dressing room where he remembers that Ramsey was calm. "The dressing rooms even at half-time were quiet, peaceful places", he said. "I've never ever known him [Ramsey] to lose his temper [...] he was quiet and placid and he would say, 'Sit yourself down and we'll have a chat in a minute.'" Even during the World Cup final, the famous manager was business as usual.

After two goals in extra time – one of them controversial – a 4-2 England win was secured. Amid exuberant celebrations on the pitch, Phillips went down to the dressing room and was reunited with the euphoric team. About 45 minutes after the win he remembers that, "Alan Ball turned to Nobby Stiles and said, 'Hey Nobby, we've forgotten – we get a

Dr Neil Phillips was the England football team doctor for 12 years, but he got the job almost by accident

The crowd at Wembley Stadium was dressed for the occasion.

England expects: the teams line up before kick off

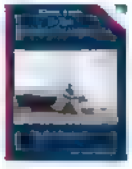
bonus!' The bonus for the England team was £1,000, but only for those players who played in the final. There were 22 players in the final squad who had been with the England team the whole way and some were going to get nothing. So the team who played had a quick meeting and said they were going to give their bonus to the rest of the squad. So instead of getting £1,000 each, they got £500. The doctors, of course, got nothing.

"After we won, we went from the hotel into London to a banquet in the Royal Garden Hotel Kensington. I've never seen so many people on a road all the way to Kensington, it was absolutely jam packed," remembers Phillips. The entire country was gripped by a sense of euphoria, and London was in the centre of it all. "People were at the side of the roads, what seemed like hundreds with dustbin lids, banging the dustbin lids as we went along the road. It was absolutely phenomenal, it really was an experience you would never ever forget. I was sitting immediately behind Alf Ramsey in the coach and I leaned forward to Alf, put my hand on his shoulder and said, "What do we do next? We can't beat this!" And Alf said, 'We have to go to Mexico and win it there.' He was already thinking about four years' time."

After the banquet the players and management were told that we could go to various places in London free of charge where they would be welcomed as guests. So the legendary team finally split up, with Phillips recalling how the defender Jack Charlton "wanted to go and visit a friend somewhere in London and he was found the following morning in the garden of his friend's house."

As for Phillips, he paired up with the trainer Les Cocker and went to the Bunny Club in London. "Les Cocker and I had never been anywhere near the Bunny Club in our lives before. As we entered, Les Cocker said to me: 'This is a day I want to remember for the rest of my life, I want to remember every minute of it. So I'm only going to drink orange squash, and when I wake up in the morning I'll be able to recall every minute of this day'" It was an advice the GP followed and ensured that when he woke up the next day every memory from the day England took on the best in the world and won was clear as day in his head

Sepp Maier punches the ball clear of hat-trick hero Geoff Hurst



Doctor To The Word Champions, Neil Phillips' autobiography, is published by Trafford Publishing and is available on their website or through Amazon and Barnes & Noble

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Origins and aftermath

The eighth staging of the FIFA World Cup was held from 11 to 30 July in England. The England team topped their group with defensive tactics, having scored only four goals but conceding none. England took on Argentina in the quarter-finals, a controversial game where the Argentinian captain Antonio Rattin was sent off. England won 1-0, courtesy of a goal by Geoff Hurst, and Ramsey famously stopped his players from swapping shirts with the opposition at the end of the game. In the semi-final England faced Eusébio's Portugal, winning 2-1 thanks to two goals from Bobby Charlton. The victory in the final against West Germany attracted 32.6 million television viewers and Hurst's controversial second goal has been heavily parodied across media. To this day the victory is a prevailing aspect of British culture and seen as one of the greatest sporting achievements in the country's history. England have not won the World Cup since 1966, with the semi-finals the closest they have come

A statue commemorating the English victory in 1966

© Alamy Getty

Heroes & Villains

Herod I, King of Judea

Cruel, paranoid and held in the grips of madness, Herod I ruled the ancient kingdom of Judea with an iron fist, brutally slaying any who opposed him

Written by Chris Fenton

Herod of Idumea was born into one of the most volatile regions of the ancient world. He learned to fear rivals, suspect betrayal and watch his back. The Romans had taken over much of his homeland and solidified their grip on the area through unpopular puppet kings. Rebellion was in the air and from a young age Herod was forced to pick sides – work with the invaders or fight for an independent homeland. His father was a high-ranking official of King Hyrcanus II and had the ear of the Roman senate, so used this prestigious position to grant Herod a governorship in 49 BCE in the province of Galilee. Herod knew this position came from powerful Roman patronage and he made sure the Romans knew he would continue supporting them if they backed him in instigating a brutal regime in Galilee for the glory of the Roman Empire.

> Herod was known to suffer hallucinations of his dead wife and slip into psychosis when he was being threatened

Unfortunately for Herod, not everyone shared his astute sense of accommodation when it came to the Romans. In 40 BCE, the puppet king Hyrcanus died and was replaced by Antigonus, who quickly set about ejecting the Roman garrisons from Judea and exterminating any native who had conspired with them against their own people. Herod quickly lost his power and position. He was forced to flee into the night and, lacking anywhere else to go, travelled to the heart of the Roman Empire to beg Caesar to help him.

Herod's presence in Rome was not unusual, many high-ranking foreigners travelled to the city to seek patronage and aid from the Roman senators who decided the fate of kingdoms. What was unusual was how unpopular Herod was within the city. The Jewish population saw him as a tyrannical traitor, the Romans as an incompetent beggar. The decision by the senate to make Herod king of the Jews was only made through a lack of a better option. As far as Caesar and the senators were concerned, Judea needed a leader who was strong and loyal to the Roman cause. Herod was neither strong nor particularly loyal, but he understood power and the protection Rome could offer him if he became their puppet and did their bidding.

With thousands of Roman legionnaires behind him and one of Rome's greatest war heroes, Mark Antony, by his side, Herod marched proudly back to his homeland as a conqueror in 37 BCE. He would not be satisfied with a mere governorship this time; he wanted ultimate power. He decided to ignore the outlying provinces and concentrate his forces around Jerusalem with the approval of Antony.

The siege lasted for 40 days. The defenders were desperate to hold onto their newfound freedom from

During his reign, Herod commissioned a number of building projects, including a huge temple in Jerusalem

"The Jewish population saw him as a tyrannical traitor, the Romans as an incompetent beggar"

Life in the time of Herod

Roman rule

The Middle East, which consisted of the Jewish and pagan kingdoms located around the coastline of the Mediterranean, was influenced and controlled by the Roman rulers through vassals and puppet kings. The Romans coveted the kingdoms for their resources, as well as to guard the eastern flank of the empire from the ever-present threat of the Persians.

Culture shock

Herod's kingdom was made up of a number of different tribes that settled in the area or who were cast out of Persia over the previous three centuries. Contrasting cultures were active in the region, some adopting Judaism while others followed Roman, Greek or pagan traditions, creating deep social divides.

Fractured

Due to the fractious nature of Judean society, many areas within the kingdom that Herod ruled did not recognise him as a legitimate king. Herod himself had very little in the way of military muscle to keep the different communities in line and often had to rely on his Roman patrons to subdue the population.

Political games

Herod's position as a Roman vassal was not an easy one. Roman politics were going through a radical transformation during this period, which involved violent civil wars. Herod had to make sure he was backing the right man, or if he wasn't, change sides quickly enough to avoid being disposed of.

Rebel groups

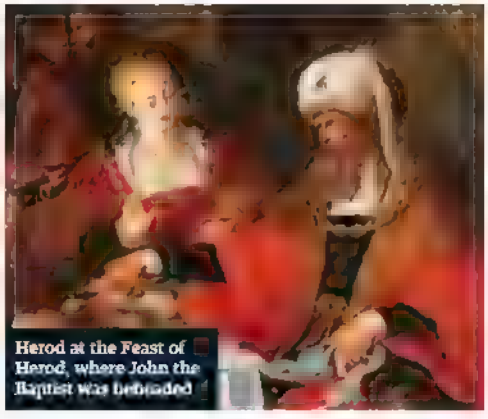
Due to the brutal repression under Herod through the Roman legions stationed in Judea, a number of rebel groups sprung up, bent on ending his reign of terror for good. These groups were forced to fight a guerrilla war, as they could not raise a standing army that could beat Caesar's legions.

Roman oppression, but in the end the walls were breached and thousands of bloodthirsty Roman warriors stormed the city. They slaughtered men, women and children, brutally slaying the people who dared defy Caesar's will. Herod was outraged he wanted to subdue the population, not butcher them, and he knew all of Judea would never forget the Jewish blood spilled that day. His complaints to Antony fell on deaf ears – as far as he was concerned, this was all in a day's work.

Antony left Herod in the smouldering ruins of his new kingdom with just enough Roman guards to keep an eye on him. Herod would now be taking his orders direct from Rome. Immediately, Herod self-styled himself as high ruler of what remained of Jerusalem and Judea. His subjects were less than convinced; his claim to the throne was based on little more than the Roman bodyguards surrounding him. As a way of gaining some respect after putting his own people to the sword, he married his second wife – a Hasmonean princess called Mariamne – in 32 BCE. Mariamne came from an old Judean family that could trace its origins back to the conquest of Alexander the Great, and so Herod hoped the marriage would give his rule an increased appearance of legitimacy among his suspicious subjects.

> Herod's gains were the Romans: they gave him his political legitimacy and enough military muscle to keep hide-bound his rule

The marriage failed to gain the love of the people, and as he began to settle down to the task of ruling his unhappy kingdom, he felt more vulnerable. He


Herod at the Feast of Herod, where John the Baptist was beheaded

feared assassination at every turn, particularly from his own family. He had his brother-in-law from his first marriage drowned in his own pleasure pool because he feared the Romans would prefer him as ruler of Judea. Then in 31 BCE, Herod received word that Rome had become engulfed in a power struggle between Octavian Caesar and Herod's old friend Antony. Like all vassals reliant on Rome's goodwill, Herod was forced to take sides, and in keeping with his preference for backing the strongest player, he chose Antony. The odds were very much stacked in Antony's favour, but he lost the struggle nonetheless, so Herod found himself in a very awkward position; the man in charge of Rome was the man he sided against. He sent a number of grovelling letters to Octavian promising his undying loyalty in return for being allowed to keep his job as king of the Jews. Octavian reluctantly allowed him to remain king, again more through a lack of a better option than any reflection on Herod's skill as a leader.

Defining moment

Fall of Jerusalem

37 BCE

Herod, with the help of a number of Roman legions supplied by Mark Antony, invades Judea and lays siege to Jerusalem. The walls are surrounded and huge siege engines are built to devastate the populace hiding within the city. After 40 days of fighting, the townspeople begin to weaken through starvation and Herod breaches the walls. When the Romans storm the city, they butcher the population. This angers Herod because his reputation would now be tarnished by the Romans' actions. Despite Herod's desire to appease the population after the siege, he still has the popular Antigonus executed because he represents a threat.

Timeline

74 BCE

- **Birth of Herod**
  Herod is born in Idumea as the second son of Antipater – a high-ranking official in the kingdom of Judea. Antipater quickly manoeuvres his son into a position of authority in Judea.
  74 BCE
- **Appointed the governor of Galilee**
  Through his father's influence, Herod is made governor of Galilee – a Judean satellite state. His father continues to gain influence throughout Judea because of his good relations with the Romans.
  49 BCE
- **Flight to Rome**
  After the anti-Roman king Antigonus II takes power in Judea, Herod is forced to flee and persuade the Romans to help him regain his power in the region.
  40 BCE
- **Elected King of the Jews**
  During his stay in Rome, Herod convinces the senate that he should be made king of the Jews. The Romans agree with the proviso that he acts as a vassal on his return to Judea.
  40 BCE

- **Marriage to Mariamne**
  Herod marries a Hasmonean princess, Mariamne, who is also a member of the Judean ruling class, in an effort to give his new status as king of the Jews legitimacy.
  32 BCE

Despite having survived one of the most destructive civil wars in Rome's history, Herod remained uneasy. He alienated his wife after placing her under guard to prevent her from claiming the throne for the Hasmoneans if he died during the fighting. He heard more rumours of threats against his life and became increasingly convinced Mariamne would try to grab power by killing him in revenge for having her arrested. Herod's behaviour became increasingly erratic and he fell into a strange psychotic state of paranoia. He became so convinced Mariamne was going to kill him that he had her beheaded. A soon as the axe fell, he came around from his delusion and realised he'd made a terrible mistake. He wept uncontrollably for weeks and began hallucinating visions of his dead wife screaming in agony in the corridors of his palace.

In an effort to turn his mind away from these terrifying visions, he began to construct a grand temple designed to be the envy of the ancient world. Construction started just after the death of Mariamne, and was only halted briefly after a great famine struck the city. When Caesar's aide Marcus Agrippa visited the city in 15 BCE, he was amazed at the temple's construction and how modern Jerusalem looked. Agrippa held court with Herod, and Herod, knowing that weakness in front of the Romans could be dangerous, managed to hide his precarious mental state. This was all for show, though; he was a man edging ever closer to madness.

In a fit of psychotic rage, Herod killed his two eldest sons because he thought they were plotting against his kingship

After Agrippa left for the gates of Rome, Herod quickly returned to the depths of paranoia. He brutally slaughtered any who spoke out against his regime and the country lived in fear of his violent mood swings. He burned alive a group of rabbis and their students who had pulled down a Roman imperial eagle in a building in Jerusalem. He then executed two of his eldest sons because he thought they were plotting against him. By 4 BCE, he feared he had become so unpopular that no one would mourn his passing after he died. In a fit of depraved madness, he ordered the families of the nobility throughout the kingdom to attend him on pain of death. He had them rounded up and placed under guard in the city's hippodrome. The guards were ordered to murder them when he died so his death would be mourned.

As the families in the hippodrome huddled together, terrified at the prospect of being put to death as a sacrifice to the passing of their own king, Herod was racked with pain on his deathbed. Suffering from kidney failure and paranoid delusions that had finally left him senseless, he saw visions of Mariamne, tortured by her mutilated face. When Herod died screaming in agony in 4 BCE, the holy men of Jerusalem proclaimed that his horrific death was "the penalty that God was exacting of the king for his great impiety." Herod's sister countermanded the order to kill the Judean families and the kingdom celebrated. Herod the mad and wicked was finally dead.

A biblical connection

Herod has been reviled in the *Bible* as a monstrous tyrant who threatened the life of the baby who Christians believe was the son of God. Jesus of Nazareth's birth came at the end of Herod's reign, when his psychotic episodes had become increasingly dangerous to the people he suspected were plotting treason against him. According to the *Bible*, it was during one of these paranoid episodes that he heard word of a child being born proclaimed as the 'king of the Jews'. This was highly threatening as far as Herod was concerned, as he had never been fully accepted by his Jewish subjects as their true king and any kind of usurpation from another individual claiming to be their ruler had to be destroyed. He went into a fit of rage, ordering all the sons of Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus, murdered in what became known as the 'Massacre of the Innocents.' While the Bible is not considered historically accurate by scholars, Herod's violent reaction was alluded to by Roman sources writing after the event, and archaeologists have speculated the massacre occurred at some point in 5 BCE, a year before Herod died. His actions have since been immortalised through the story of the Nativity, and his reputation for uncompromising brutality has never been forgotten in Christian traditions.

Herod orders the execution of all first-born males in Bethlehem

Defining moment

Trouble in Rome

31 BCE

A Roman civil war threatens to engulf Judea in factional fighting and Herod must decide which man to support – Octavian Caesar or his old friend Mark Antony. Antony's force, stationed in Egypt, appears to be the strongest, so initially Herod sides with him. After Antony's defeat, Herod endears himself to Octavian, pledging his loyalty to the new Roman leader. While Octavian is not convinced of Herod's honesty, he recognises that he has served Rome well in the past, so allows Herod to stay on as king of Judea as long as he can control the population.

The Battle of Actium as depicted by Lorenzo A Castro

Defining moment

Death of Herod

4 BCE

Herod dies in March or April 4 BCE after succumbing to 'Herod's evil', thought to be kidney disease and gangrene. He had already executed two of his eldest sons after another bout of paranoid madness, and he leaves Judea in open rebellion against Roman authority. The divided communities that make up the Judean state immediately demand independence, and only the presence of Roman legions under Octavian subdue the population adequately for Herod's three remaining sons to rule a third of the kingdom each under Roman patronage.

4 BCE

- **Mariamne arrested**
  In a fit of paranoia, Herod orders for Mariamne to be arrested after he fears that if he dies she will try and take the throne away from his son. This deeply offends Mariamne and she becomes extremely hostile toward him.
  31 BCE
- **Death of a princess**
  After further rumours about a plot to poison him, Herod condemns Mariamne to death to prevent her from trying to seize power. This action haunts him for the rest of his life.
  29 BCE
- **Famine**
  A great famine strikes Judea and its surrounding provinces. Herod is forced to halt some of his grand architectural projects in order to buy grain to feed the starving population.
  25 BCE
- **The grand temple**
  As a way of appeasing the Jewish population, Herod builds a grand temple in Jerusalem. Little remains of the site today, but it was said to be one of the largest buildings in the entire city at the time.
  20 BCE
- **Visit of Markus Agrippa**
  Agrippa visits the city to make sure Herod's loyalty has not abandoned him and is astonished by the new masonry projects commissioned by the king of the Jews.
  15 BCE
- **Burning of the teachers**
  In one of Herod's most brutal acts, he orders the death of a group of rabbis who are caught destroying a Roman eagle within Jerusalem. They are thrown in a pit and burned alive.
  4 BCE

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What was it like?

BABYLON, 597 BCE

The infamous capital of Mesopotamia's most prolific ancient empire was home to law, riches and a powerful king

A name synonymous with wealth and decadence in the ancient world, for a long time Babylon was at the centre of the largest empire in the region of Mesopotamia and a jewel of civilisation. Rumoured as the architect of the supposed Hanging Gardens, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world, King Nebuchadnezzar II ruled during the most prosperous period of Babylonia's rich history. His military conquests expanded the empire as far as Egypt and saw him sack Jerusalem, destroying the First Temple and enslaving most of its population in 597 BCE.

This military success brought the spoils of war back to the capital city of the empire, which thrived from the king's ambitious construction projects. During his reign, Nebuchadnezzar II had new walls built for the city as well as shrines, temples and an improved network of canals to increase the productivity of the farmland.

However, this golden period in Babylon's history would prove to be its peak and within the following centuries the empire and its main city would be invaded by Persian, Greek and Muslim conquerors. Today, in modern-day Iraq only ruins remain of this once-glorious capital.

Society

The social separation between slaves and masters was integral in Babylon. The upper class, called the awilu, were free citizens of the city, while the wardu formed the slave class. The mushkenu made up a middling group of low-class free persons who experienced modest living conditions. Slavery was commonly used as a punishment, meaning citizens could be sold into bondage to atone for a crime, no matter which class they belonged to.

Ruins of the Ishtar Gate, 1932

Law

The Code of Hammurabi, named after its creator, the first king of Babylonia, details the law. Stealing was often punishable by death, while a reduction to slavery was very common.

An illustration of the Ishtar Gate, which was constructed in around 575 BCE

Government

While Nebuchadnezzar II ruled his country and its capital as an absolute monarch and dictated most of the big decisions, from planning construction projects to waging wars, much of the city's day-to-day running was handled by secretaries, elders and prefects. Regional governors and de-facto mayors were also used to handle the business of the city and the empire in the king's absence.

Religion

It was believed each aspect of life and death was protected or antagonised by a supernatural being. Under Nebuchadnezzar II's reign, hundreds of religious shrines were constructed, dedicated to the many Mesopotamian gods and demigods. Principal among these was Marduk, to whom the central ziggurat (temple) was dedicated.

Military

Babylonia's armies were supplemented through levies, with ordinary citizens drafted in to serve as archers or slingers for periods of time. Nebuchadnezzar II would lead his armies surrounded by officers in grand chariots, guards on horseback and members of his court.

Economy

Irrigation and agriculture inherited from Sumerian tradition helped Babylonian engineers maintain reservoirs and canals essential for successful crops. The core of the city's economy was farm produce, which was traded as far as India. Textiles were also a key export of the city.

Education

While vast portions of the population were illiterate, the administrative arms of the courts and the government were well read and could use the ancient cuneiform system of writing. As part of his training, a scribe or secretary would repeatedly copy out lists of words, phrases and whole passages in both Babylonian and Sumerian to perfect his writing.

Marduk, the main deity of Babylon

Major Crandall flew Huey helicopters in the Vietnam War like these ones pictured

Major Bruce P Crandall

Why did he win it?
In command of 16 unarmed Huey helicopters airlifting the 1/7 CAV into battle, Crandall placed himself in personal danger by continuing into the battlefield to airlift the wounded out and resupply the troops with ammunition. He rescued over 70 wounded soldiers in a total of 14 return trips.

Where was the battle?
The Ia Drang Valley is found east of the Chu Pong Massif mountain range in central Vietnam.

When did it take place?
On 14 November 1965.

When was he awarded the Medal of Honor?
Though initially awarded with the Distinguished Flying Cross, this was subsequently upgraded to the Medal of Honor, which he was invested with on 26 February 2007.

What was the popular reaction?
The Battle of Ia Drang remains one of the bloodiest encounters of the Vietnam War, with numerous tales of gallantry, sacrifice and horror. In 2001, Crandall was an aviation consultant on the film *We Were Soldiers*, starring Mel Gibson, which recounts the events of the battle.

HEROES OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR

Bruce P Crandall

THE BATTLE OF IA DRANG, VIETNAM, 14 NOVEMBER 1965

Written by Tim Williamson

Thick smoke chokes the horizon, rising from the sea of green jungle speeding past below. Explosions flash up again and again as ordinance shells pummel the landscape, heralding the arrival of the US forces. Leading his squadron of 16 unarmed Huey aircraft toward the target of the artillery the area surrounding landing zone (LZ) X-Ray, Major Bruce Crandall gives the order to drop altitude to just above the treetops as they draw closer to their destination. The passengers of the Hueys, clinging on for dear life as the helicopters skim across the surface of the forest, are the men of the 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment (1/7 CAV). They are here to confront the enemy on their own doorstep. Though they know this won't be easy, neither they, Major Crandall, nor the operation's commanding officer Lt Col Harold Moore know just what horrors await them in the Ia Drang Valley.

The enemy is the People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN), who are in familiar terrain, safe in the bosom of the Chu Pong Massif mountain range and the thick expanse of jungle. Just like the men of 1/7 CAV, they are keen to fight. The north-Vietnamese commanders, hearing of the aggressive US deployment, have been eager to test their enemy's strength on the battlefield and overcome the latest tactic of their new foe: the aerial assault. Major Crandall has been practising and developing this method of combat with the 11th Air Assault Division, utilising quick deployment and evacuation of troops in and around battlefields. He will put his methods to the test in one of the most extreme combat environments in the Vietnam War.

> "Without Crandall, this battalion would almost surely have been overrun"

Known by his call sign 'Ancient Serpent 6' or simply 'Snake', Major Crandall is already a respected leader, as well as a formidable pilot, at ease in fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters alike. He will soon have to call upon all his experience and skill to keep the men now leaping out of his landed Huey alive. As he lifts into the air for the first time from the valley that day, he watches as B Company spreads out across the clearing of LZ X-Ray, along with Lt Col Moore, securing the position and searching for the enemy. As the hum of Major Crandall's squadron grows fainter into the distance and he returns to base to collect the next batch of 1/7 CAV, there's a threatening stillness in the air.

Though intelligence has estimated some 250 or so PAVN troops are operating in the area close to LZ X-Ray, in reality a number close to seven times that is now stalking through the jungle toward the Americans. As Major Crandall returns with more troops from the Plei Me base some 30 minutes later, the battle has already begun. As he sets his passengers down, they ready their M16s and rush in the direction of the gunfire. With each return trip the fighting has intensified, with the surrounding forest crackling with machine-gun fire, mixing with the rhythmic thudding of the helicopters' blades.

It's not long before the officers on the ground and Major Crandall realise just what awesome odds they are facing. This is made even clearer as bullets begin to ricochet off the unarmed Hueys, which are by now in range of PAVN guns, tempting targets as they descend into the clearing. If one of the transports were to go down, it would be a huge blow not just to the battalion's strength but also to the men's morale. As he lifts away from the battlefield once more, his craft dented by shots but not badly damaged, he makes a bold yet uncompromising decision. He knows that at the rate the battle is raging, ammunition and supplies will quickly begin to run dry, leaving the battalion defenceless against overwhelming odds. Determined to act as the troops' lifeline, he sets his own mission to resupply and support the ongoing fight in the Ia Drang Valley, continually placing himself in the sights of enemy fire. With bullets swarming his helicopter on each descent and takeoff, Major Crandall knows every trip into the Valley of Death may well be his last.

Praise for a hero

"There was never a consideration that we would not go into those landing zones. They were my people down there and they trusted in me to come and get them"

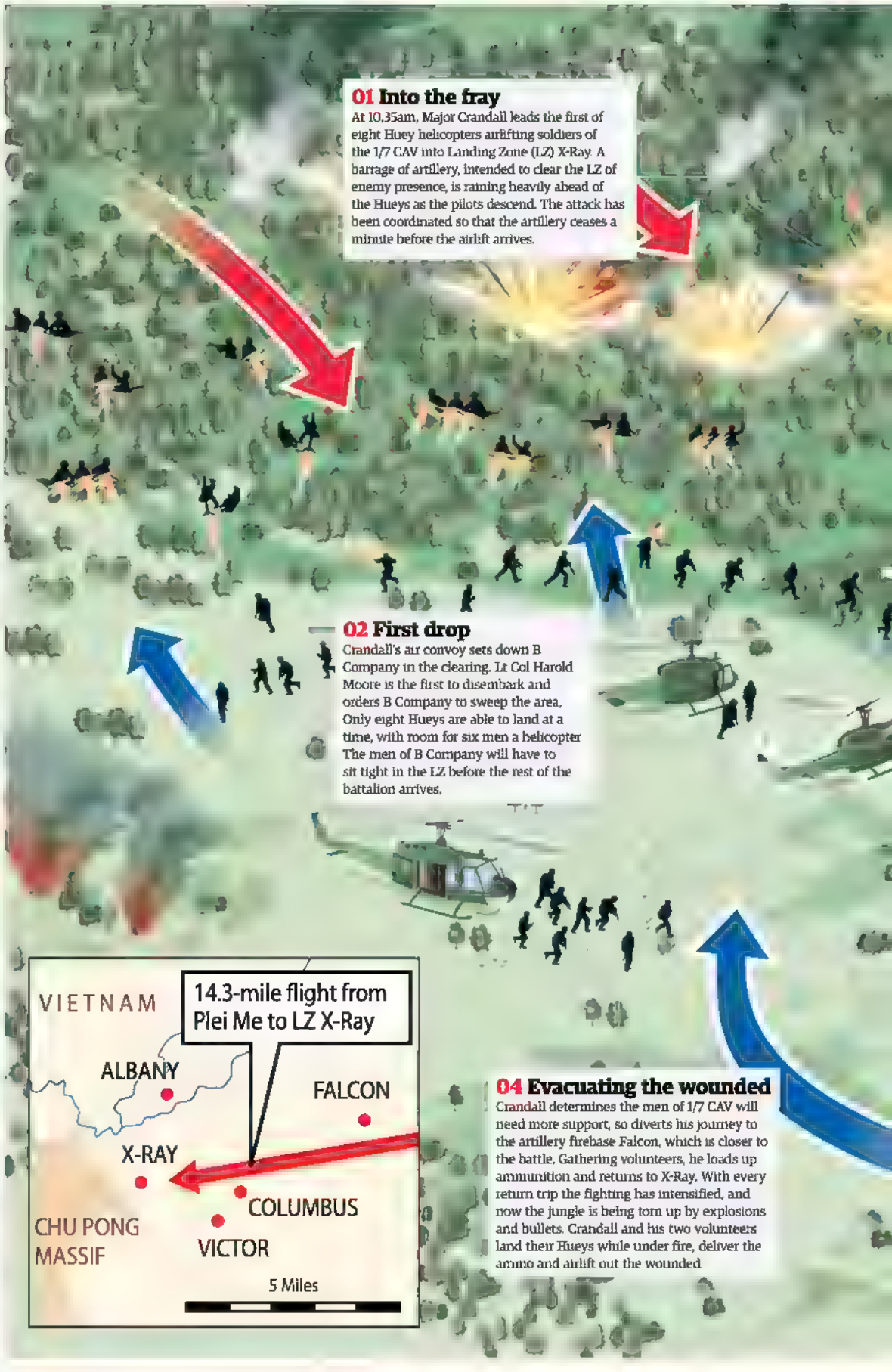
Lt Col Bruce Crandall

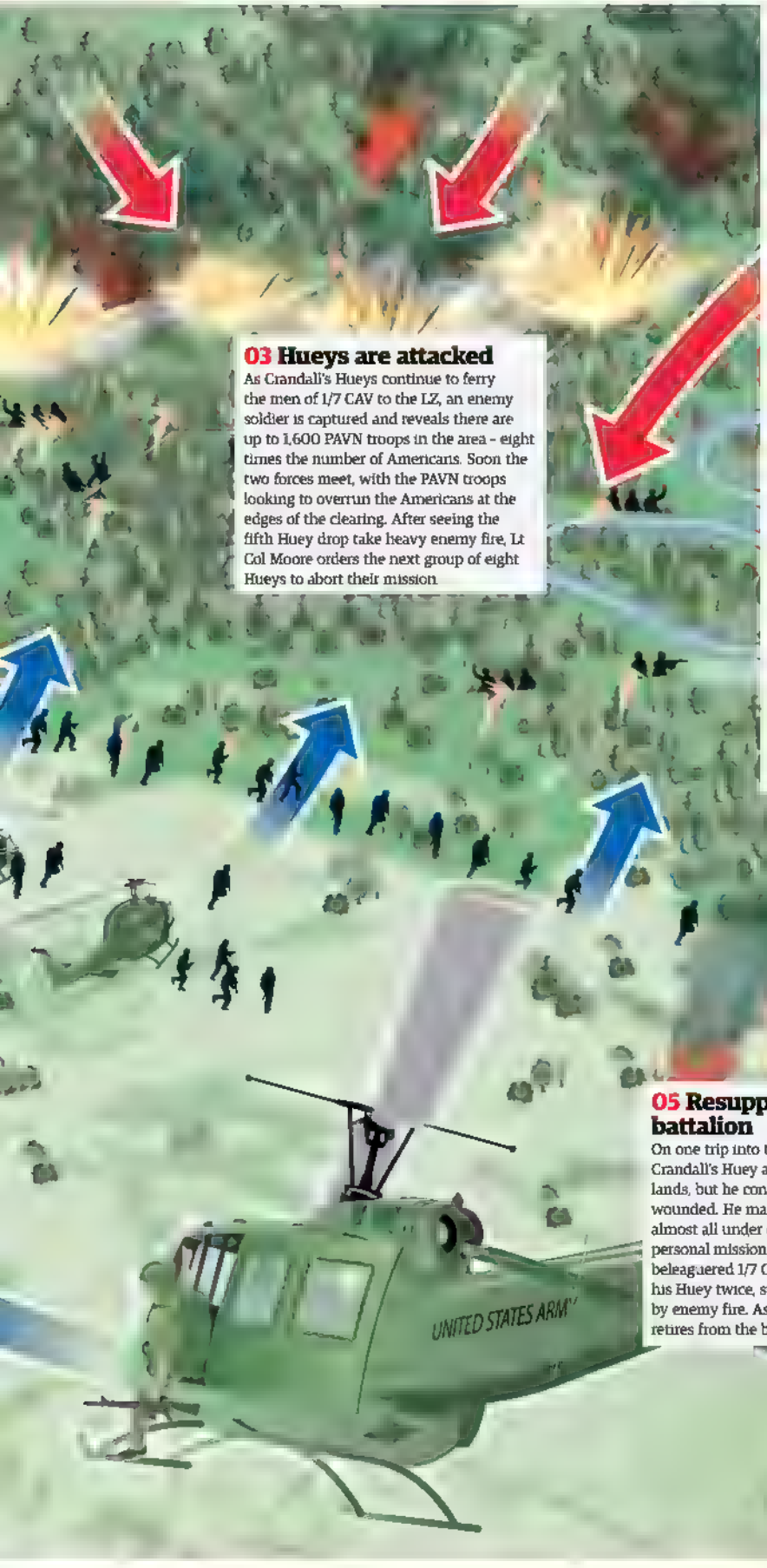
"Major Crandall's daring acts of bravery and courage in the face of an overwhelming and determined enemy are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service"

Official Medal of Honor Citation

The aftermath

By the end of the first day of fighting, 1/7 CAV had lost around 110 men, nearly a quarter of its strength. However, the Battle of Ia Drang stretched on for another two days, across several different landing zones. At one point, during the second day of the intensely violent engagement, the commanding officer for the US forces called for 'Broken Arrow', which is the code word indicating a US battalion is in real danger of being overrun. This code word brought every available fighter jet to the area, to deploy their bombs on the enemy, who were overwhelmed by the sheer fire power. Despite that, it still took a whole day to secure victory. Major Crandall went on to fly many more operations in Vietnam, continuing to distinguish himself as a daring and formidable pilot. During his second tour to Vietnam, Crandall's helicopter was downed during a rescue attempt. Though he survived the crash, Major Crandall broke his back and was forced into administrative roles away from the front line for the remainder of his military career.


01 Into the fray
At 10.35am, Major Crandall leads the first of eight Huey helicopters airlifting soldiers of the 1/7 CAV into Landing Zone (LZ) X-Ray. A barrage of artillery, intended to clear the LZ of enemy presence, is raining heavily ahead of the Hueys as the pilots descend. The attack has been coordinated so that the artillery ceases a minute before the airlift arrives.
02 First drop
Crandall's air convoy sets down B Company in the clearing. Lt Col Harold Moore is the first to disembark and orders B Company to sweep the area. Only eight Hueys are able to land at a time, with room for six men a helicopter. The men of B Company will have to sit tight in the LZ before the rest of the battalion arrives.
VIETNAM
14.3-mile flight from Plei Me to LZ X-Ray
ALBANY
FALCON
X-RAY
COLUMBUS
CHU PONG MASSIF
VICTOR
5 Miles
04 Evacuating the wounded
Crandall determines the men of 1/7 CAV will need more support, so diverts his journey to the artillery firebase Falcon, which is closer to the battle. Gathering volunteers, he loads up ammunition and returns to X-Ray. With every return trip the fighting has intensified, and now the jungle is being torn up by explosions and bullets. Crandall and his two volunteers land their Hueys while under fire, deliver the ammo and airlift out the wounded.



03 Hueys are attacked

As Crandall's Hueys continue to ferry the men of 1/7 CAV to the LZ, an enemy soldier is captured and reveals there are up to 1,600 PAVN troops in the area – eight times the number of Americans. Soon the two forces meet, with the PAVN troops looking to overrun the Americans at the edges of the clearing. After seeing the fifth Huey drop take heavy enemy fire, Lt Col Moore orders the next group of eight Hueys to abort their mission.

05 Resupplying the battalion

On one trip into the LZ, three men in Crandall's Huey are shot and killed as it lands, but he continues to load up more wounded. He makes over 14 journeys, almost all under enemy fire, in his personal mission to provide support to the beleaguered 1/7 CAV. He is forced to replace his Huey twice, such is the damage caused by enemy fire. As night draws in he finally retires from the battlefield.

Crandall's squadron of helicopters about to take off, circa 1966

Bruce Crandall's Huey helicopter in action in Vietnam

The Medal of Honor

What is it?
The USA's highest military honour is awarded to members of the armed forces for the most exceptional acts of bravery and valour during combat. This is when service personnel have gone beyond the call of duty, often placing themselves in difficult and/or life-threatening situations beyond reasonable expectation.

Why and when was it introduced?
The Medal was first awarded to sailors and marines in 1861, during the American Civil War, before being extended to ordinary soldiers as well.

What does the Medal look like?
Since its creation, there have been numerous designs to accommodate the various facets of the armed forces. A light-blue ribbon in the shape of a V, suspending a star, is the most consistent design trope.

How often has it been awarded?
There have been over 3,400 recipients of the Medal since its introduction, with many of these being posthumous citations, where the recipient was killed in the line of duty.

©Ian Moores Graphics, Corbis

LIONHEART

Born to royalty but educated in the charnel gutter of war, King Richard brought the religious fanaticism of the Christian West on the Muslim East in a quest to claim the fabled Holy Land

Written by Robert Jones

For almost a year the mighty city of Acre held firm. Despite wave after wave of Christian knights pouring all their religious fervour and military might into its ancient walls, it had held back the tide and somehow halted the progress of the foreign hordes that now threatened to overrun the entire Near East.

More and more men came, though – the attacks were relentless. When the first army had been held at bay, the city's inhabitants thought they were safe, that the invasion was defeated. However, then yet another army landed and the city's main artery, its port, which provided passage in and out of its walls, was taken. The city's defences were tested once more, with an even more ferocious attack battering at the doors and calling for blood. Luckily for those within, once more the city held off the mass of warriors, its infidel leaders repelled.

Then, with the new year's sailing season, another invader arrived by sea with a fresh bloodthirsty army. He was followed in May by yet another, with tens of thousands of soldiers joining the infidels' camp outside the walls, swelling their numbers to terrifying proportions. They attacked again and the losses on both sides were massive. The lack of food and supplies in the city, and the spread of disease within the invaders' camp drove both sets of warriors to extremes, stoking the fires of faith that lay within their hearts to pursue bolder and bolder acts of violence.

Today is the eighth day of June 1191 and, as Acre slowly suffocates in the oppressive heat of the Levant's summer months, yet another fleet is landing in the city's once-prosperous port, this time with one of the biggest forces the city has ever seen. If the ruler of Acre, the noble and great Saladin, doesn't send meaningful reinforcements soon, then the city will fall and the gates to the Holy Land will be brutally wrenched open to the Christian hordes.

They call this one, this man-mountain stepping off his ship onto the dusty dry shore, the Lionheart, and he is here to kill them all in the name of his god and glory. The passage had been long and painful, featuring storms, shipwrecks and a mad despot who threatened to derail the Third Crusade before it had even begun. No matter, King Richard the Lionheart and his army had survived the trip across the Mediterranean Sea and reached the Holy Land. After months of pursuit and planning, they were primed to fulfil their mission, Richard's mission, God's mission, to take the Holy Land by storm and cut a direct path to the holiest of all cities, Jerusalem.

RICHARD THE LIONHEART

English, 1157-1199

Brief Bio

King of England from the 6 July 1189 until his death, Richard I was the third of five sons of King Henry II of England and Eleanor of Aquitaine. At 16, Richard took control of his own army and thanks to a series of victories over rebels threatening his father's throne, developed a reputation as a great military leader. Following his father's death and his own coronation he launched the Third Crusade.

BATTLE OF ARSUF

A major battle in the Third Crusade, Arsuf saw Richard and Saladin face off

CRUSADERS

NUMBER OF TROOPS: 20,000

LEADER

RICHARD THE LIONHEART

Excellent on the battlefield, Richard the Lionheart was a brutal killer and a gifted tactical thinker, leading an army of religious fanatics with ruthless efficiency.

Strength Amazing warrior and powerful military leader.

Weakness Politically and economically reckless as king.

KEY UNIT

TEMPLAR KNIGHT

The most skilled Christian fighting unit to take part in the Third Crusade, the Knights Templar were wealthy, well-trained and fanatical fighters driven by a holy purpose.

Strength Well-equipped and trained in hand-to-hand combat.

Weakness Few in number and fanatically religious, leading to recklessness.

KEY WEAPON

BROADSWORD

The most popular hand-to-hand weapon of all Christian knight orders, including the Knights Templar and Knights Hospitaller, the broadsword was a well-balanced and deadly weapon capable of stabbing and cleaving.

Strength Great all-round weapon that also allowed shield use.

Weakness Could be out-ranged with two-handed swords and spears.

01 The Wood of Arsuf

After taking Acre, Richard set out for his next target, Arsuf. To get there, he had to move south along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea and then traverse the Wood of Arsuf, one of the few forested regions in all of the Levant. Saladin knew this and after tracking and harassing Richard's slow-moving baggage train and infantry, decided the woods would be the ideal position to strike.

02 A narrow plain

Richard, wary of an assault on his convoy proceeded slowly through the Wood of Arsuf, making the first 10km (6mi) without incident. Saladin had already identified a striking point however – a narrow clear plain in the forest approximately 9km (5.5mi) from Arsuf. Saladin intended to engage in skirmishes along the length of the convoy and then hit its rear with a decisive attack.

03 Scouts at dawn

Moving out of their camp at dawn on 7 September 1191, Richard's scouts reported Saladin's scouts could be seen. Richard realised that this meant Saladin's full army was nearby and started to arrange his army. Men were deployed at the fore and rear of the convoy column, with the van – the foremost division – made up of the Knights Templar under the command of their 11th grand master, Robert de Sable.

04 Saladin attacks

As soon as Richard's convoy reached the plain Saladin's forces attacked. At the front, Saladin sent a dense swarm of skirmishers, while behind them streamed squadrons of heavy cavalry and foot and horse archers, splitting so that the army attacked from the centre, left and right.

05 Crusader flanks hold

Saladin's chief tactic was to break the flanks of the crusader column and ordered incursions of javelin throwers and mounted archers to perform lightning strikes along their flanks and retreating before crusader crossbowmen could retaliate. The flanks held, though.

To the disgrace of all of Christendom, Jesus's city had fallen four years previous to the Saracen Ayyubid hordes, which was now not only ruled by Christianity's arch-nemesis Saladin, but also defiled by their very presence within its hallowed walls. The city, which had been safely held in Christian hands for almost 100 years since the First Crusade had established the Kingdom of Jerusalem in 1099, had been ordered to be retaken by none other than the Pope in Rome. Richard, a devout and deeply religious king, had heeded the call. Here he now stood, ready to do his duty to the one true god. Conquering Acre was merely the first step in wrestling Jerusalem from Saladin's grip.

Counter seal (1195) of Richard I of England

So far the city's capture and wider crusade had been in the hands of a number of other leaders. These included Guy of Lusignan – a proud Poitevin knight and the supposed rightful king of Jerusalem through his marriage to Sibylla of Jerusalem – and King Philip II of France, who had helped raise the 'Saladin tithe' to pay for the crusade. The Duke of Austria, Leopold V, had overall command of the imperial forces. There had been yet more leaders at the

10 Ayyubid army scatters

Its right wing smashed, the Ayyubid army soon routed, scattering back into the hills and forests south of Arsuf. Richard, realising the pursuing knights could be ambushed in a surprise counterattack, drew the warriors back into an orderly formation at Arsuf and ordered them to pitch camp at the now-secure fortress. Saladin was forced to retreat with his reputation as an invincible leader tarnished.

09 Templars let loose

Freed from the tactical order to defend and maintain discipline, the crusader knights took the fight to the Saracens, unleashing their hatred and combat prowess in one brutal wave of death. The right wing of Saladin's army couldn't sustain the assault and collapsed almost immediately, with Richard himself weighing into the heart of the fighting. As a bloody revenge for the day's attacks was complete, the Knights Templar set off in pursuit of the fleeing Saracens.

08 Counterattack slams home

Garnier de Nablus disobeyed orders in counterattacking, but with the Hospitaller charging, Richard knew they needed support and ordered his army to engage with them. The full weight of the crusader army therefore suddenly switched emphasis from defence to attack, ramming into the Ayyubid army with immense ferocity

06 Hospitallers come under attack

Saladin shifted the focus point of his army to the rear of column, engaging the Knights Hospitaller. Saladin joined the assault along with his brother to inspire his men to make a breakthrough. Richard held the convoy together despite some losses and edged them toward Arsuf.

07 Knights break rank

Richard reached Arsuf in the middle of the afternoon, with the besieged Hospitaller vanguard retreating into the fortress city. Line discipline was finally lost and a melee began. Seeing his men in trouble, the grand master of the Knights Hospitaller, Garnier de Nablus, broke ranks and charged the Saracens.

MUSLIMS

NUMBER OF TROOPS: 25,000

LEADER

SALADIN

Strength Respected tactical thinker and powerful politician

Weakness Hands-off leader with little personal combat prowess

KEY UNIT

MOUNTED ARCHER

Strength Fast units that excelled in ambush and hit-and-run attacks

Weakness Easily cut down by knights in hand-to-hand combat

KEY WEAPON

SHORT BOW

Strength Fast to fire and reload with good stopping power

Weakness Could be outranged by the longbow and all-but-useless in hand-to-hand combat

siege's instigation the summer previous but illness and disease had claimed many over the winter months, with Frederick of Swabia and even the holy Patriarch Heraclius of Jerusalem all passing from this mortal world into the next.

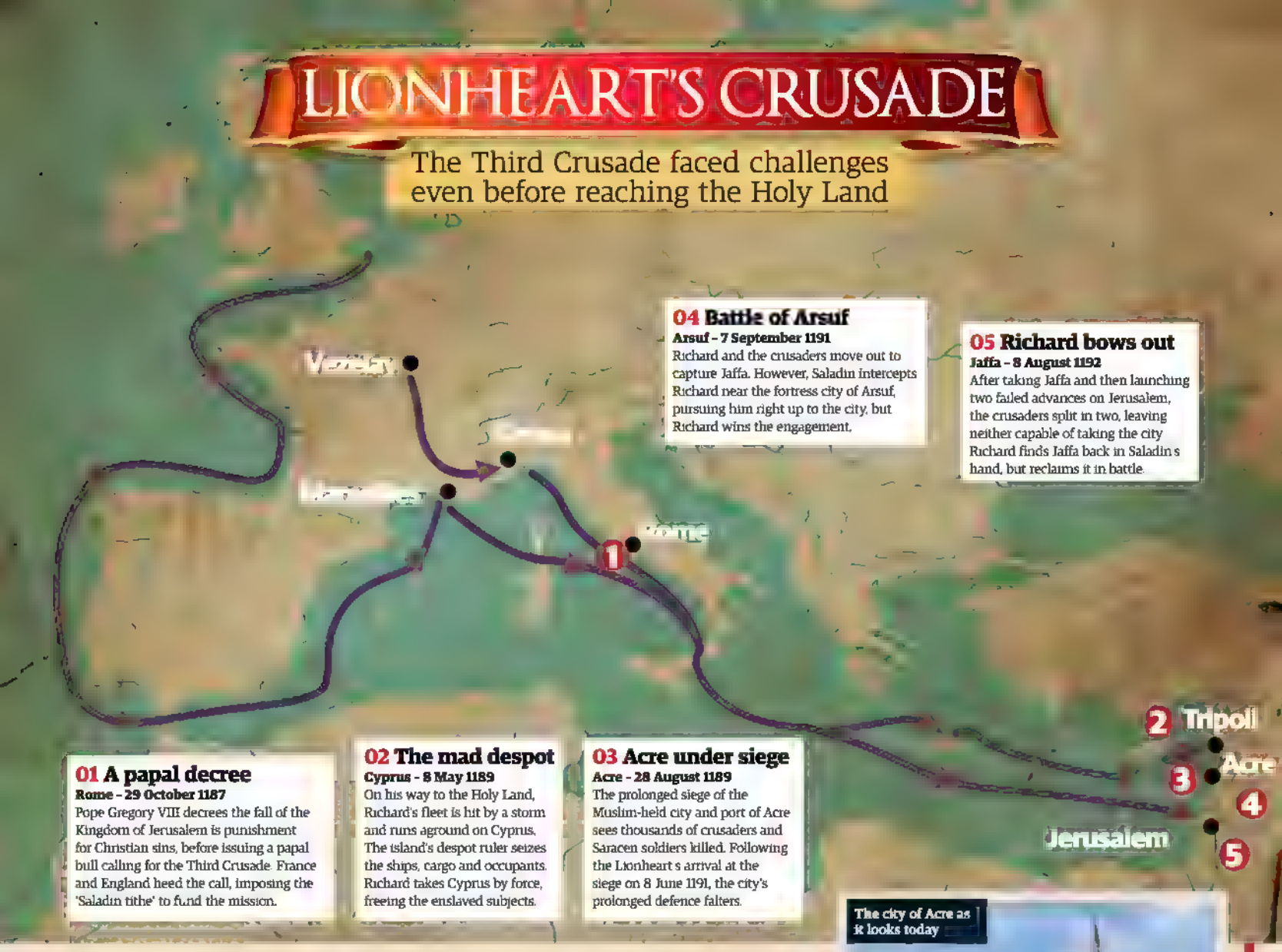
The siege itself had stalled, so every passing week threatened to allow Saladin to outmanoeuvre the crusaders. Richard, being the honed and experienced military leader that he was, realised this and after meeting with the other leaders, gave orders for vast siege engines to be built, ones that could bring down the city's walls. These engines, these machines of death, once completed, towered over the Christian knights and, when unleashed, brought the siege into a deadly endgame.

Colossal boulders rained down upon Acre's walls, smashing against them with thunderous brutality. Corpses of animals and Muslim soldiers littered the city's streets, spreading disease and sapping the morale of the terrified residents. Most fearsome of all though, flaming balls and arrows set ablaze anything that wasn't made out of stone, causing panic to quickly spread among Acre's populace. The surviving Muslim soldiers defended bravely, but the sheer carnage and chaos the machines and men of war now levied on the city was too much and, after a month of death and destruction, the remaining Muslim garrison within the city surrendered, which was a direct violation

Due to its position of strategic importance Acre was often the scene of violence

LIONHEART'S CRUSADE

The Third Crusade faced challenges even before reaching the Holy Land



01 A papal decree
Rome - 29 October 1187
Pope Gregory VIII decrees the fall of the Kingdom of Jerusalem is punishment for Christian sins, before issuing a papal bull calling for the Third Crusade. France and England heed the call, imposing the 'Saladin tithe' to fund the mission.

02 The mad despot
Cyprus - 8 May 1189
On his way to the Holy Land, Richard's fleet is hit by a storm and runs aground on Cyprus. The island's despot ruler seizes the ships, cargo and occupants. Richard takes Cyprus by force, freeing the enslaved subjects.

03 Acre under siege
Acre - 28 August 1189
The prolonged siege of the Muslim-held city and port of Acre sees thousands of crusaders and Saracen soldiers killed. Following the Lionheart's arrival at the siege on 8 June 1191, the city's prolonged defence falters.

04 Battle of Arsuf
Arsuf - 7 September 1191
Richard and the crusaders move out to capture Jaffa. However, Saladin intercepts Richard near the fortress city of Arsuf, pursuing him right up to the city, but Richard wins the engagement.

05 Richard bows out
Jaffa - 8 August 1192
After taking Jaffa and then launching two failed advances on Jerusalem, the crusaders split in two, leaving neither capable of taking the city. Richard finds Jaffa back in Saladin's hand, but reclaims it in battle.

"They call this one the Lionheart and he is here to kill them all in the name of his God and glory"

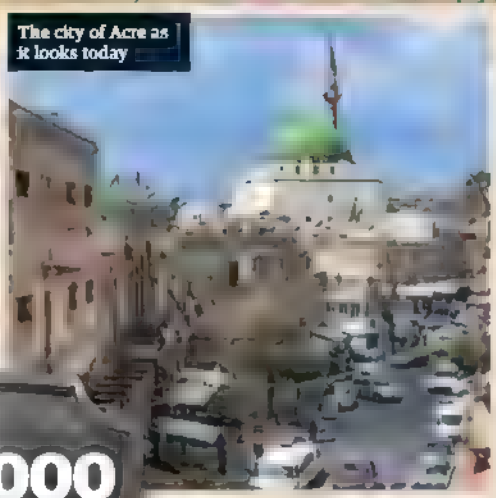
of Saladin's orders.

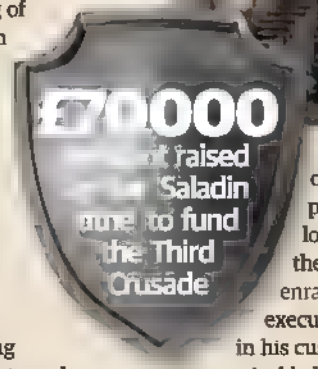
On receiving the news of Acre's fall, Saladin immediately set out for the city. On his way he received news that Richard had taken the surrendering Muslim garrison of 2,400 men captive and was offering their return for a ransom. Saladin, known for his loyalty to his men and his wisdom, agreed to the ransom, which not only included monetary compensation but also the release of all of his Christian prisoners.

In Acre the banners of the Kingdom of Jerusalem, France, England and the Duchy of Austria fluttered in the light breeze. With Acre down, Richard knew that only the city of Jaffa to the south stood in their way of making a direct assault on Jerusalem, so he began making preparations for the continued crusade, as well as for the reparation of the sacked city. These preparations were swiftly interrupted by an argument that developed between the conquering leaders as to how the city should be divided up and to how the spoils of their victory should be apportioned. This quarrelling led Richard to strike down the Austrian standard from above the city's walls, slighting Leopold, as the king of England sided with Guy of Lusignan rather than Philip and Leopold over who should become king of Jerusalem when the city was taken. Philip and Leopold preferred fellow crusader and Italian nobleman Conrad of Montferrat, with Phillip so angry he threatened to return to Europe.

This cauldron of scheming and disagreement was tipped over the edge when Saladin delayed in paying the garrison's ransom. An already irate and disgruntled Richard deemed the lateness a massive slight and ordered every single one of the garrison to be executed. Saladin reached the city just as the decision was made, but could only watch as man after man was publicly executed, their heads lopped from their shoulders atop the city walls. Thousands died. The enraged Saladin replied like-for-like, executing the 1,000 Christian prisoners in his custody. Whatever deal could conceivably have been reached between the rival leaders now lay in ruins, seemingly as dead as the unfortunate prisoners.

Angered and frustrated with Richard and Guy, Philip and Leopold finally decided that their


The city of Acre as it looks today



ANATOMY OF A TEMPLAR KNIGHT

The key kit and weapons carried by the most elite of Christian warriors

Helmet
Decapitation resistance
The great helm was the mainstay of the Templar Order and offered excellent protection against blows, as did the sugarloaf helmet. Due to narrow viewing corridors and high temperatures experienced in the Holy Land, many opted for more lightweight alternatives with open faces.

Jerkin
A guaranteed chafe-free experience
Unseen, however often critical in keeping a Knight Templar breathing, was the haubergeon, a padded jerkin that sat against his skin. The jerkin extended over much of the upper body and was the last line of defence from enemy blows. In colder climates, it also helped keep the warrior warm – not an issue in the Holy Land.

8,000
knights and soldiers who journeyed to the Holy Land

Broadsword
Designed to hack and slash
As standard for western knights, the typical Knight Templar was armed with a broadsword, however when fighting on horseback spears were also used. Sometimes, two-handed broadswords were opted for while fighting on foot, but while they granted extra reach and cleaving power, they left the knight shieldless.

Surcoat
It ain't half hot in the Holy Land
Above the knight's chainmail sat the visible surcoat. This white garment not only kept the Sun off their metal armour, also displayed the symbols of the Order.

Chainmail
Thy enemy's blade shall not pass
The primary form of defence against enemy strikes, the hauberk, a long-sleeved shirt of chainmail fitted with chain covers for the hands and a chain coif hood for the head, was a knight's armour. The chainmail would be partnered with iron chausses to protect their legs.

Shield
The first and best line of defence
Adorned with the Christian cross of their order, the Templar shield was large and long, with a teardrop design protecting their entire torso and upper legs. It was constructed from wood and had a metal rim, the latter helping to protect against it splitting under the weight of sword blows. It had a leather handgrip at the rear.

participation in the Third Crusade was at an end, leaving in late August for their European homes. For Richard, though, such betrayal of faith was unimaginable, and after calling on the Philip to do right in the eyes of god, managed to persuade him to leave behind 10,000 French crusaders along with the necessary funds to pay for their upkeep. The Lionheart was now the central remaining commander of over 20,000 crusaders, knights and soldiers alike and, burning with glorious purpose, ordered the continuation of the crusade, with the bulk of the crusading army marching out of Acre in August's final days. This was no doubt who was now leading this holy crusade.

The next city on the crusaders' relentless march to Jerusalem was Jaffa, an important port that provided passage into the southern Mediterranean Sea. As long as Jaffa remained untaken Saladin had a natural avenue to pour more of his troops into the region from his impregnable stronghold of Egypt, but if it fell to the crusaders Saladin would be forced to move men over land, a far less effective and more time-consuming proposition. The city also lay a mere 65 kilometres (40 miles) from Jerusalem, making it the ideal coastal base for crusaders. Before it could be taken, though, the crusaders needed to get there in one piece. Richard knew Saladin was somewhere in the nearby area and, aware of his enemy's skill in arranging ambushes, ordered his troops to march down the Mediterranean coastline, with the baggage train protected by being nearest to the coast. This tactic prevented Saladin from attacking on one flank, as Richard also got his fleet to sail down the coast in parallel with them, shutting off the sea as an avenue of possible attack.

However, to the north of Jaffa lay the Wood of Arsuf, one of the only forested areas in all of the Levant. The woods ran parallel to the coastline for over 20 kilometres (12 miles) and had to be traversed by Richard's army if they were to reach Jaffa. After harassing Richard's troops with small hit-and-run attacks within the woods, Saladin sanctioned a full-scale assault on the crusaders, which led to the largest pitched battle of the Third Crusade. Saladin knew the battle would be

"SALADIN COULD ONLY WATCH AS MAN AFTER MAN WAS PUBLICLY EXECUTED, THEIR HEADS LOPPED FROM THEIR SHOULDERS ATOP THE CITY WALLS"

decisive, but couldn't possibly have foreseen how disastrous for him it would be. As the Sun went down on 7 September 1191 the Saracen army had been routed in a decisive counterattack led by Richard's Knights Hospitaller, Saladin retreated from Arsuf to regroup what was left of his battered army and lick his wounds.

The crusaders made a beeline for Jaffa, swiftly besieging and taking it. Despite some disagreement with the other crusader leaders, Richard – with Jerusalem almost in sight – decided to open negotiations with his enemy. Saladin, who was being questioned by some of his subjects following the defeat at Arsuf, agreed to the negotiations and sent his brother, Al-Adil to Jaffa to lead the talks. Despite headway being made – at one time Richard's sister Joan was being talked about as a potential bride for Al-Adil with Jerusalem as a wedding gift – the talks ultimately broke down.

The breakdown of the talks caused unrest in the crusader ranks, with arguments arising about the best way to proceed toward their goal. Richard, growing tired of the constant in-fighting, acted decisively and ordered the army to move on Jerusalem in November, first moving through Ascalon and then Latrun. The Christian army was soon at Beit Nuba, a mere 20 kilometres (12 miles) from Jerusalem. The news quickly spread of the crusaders' progress and the morale in the Muslim garrisons within the city crumbled. Saladin's forces had been crushed, Acre, Arsuf and Jaffa taken and Jerusalem looked set to be next. Victory for the Third Crusade seemed inevitable.

At this vital point hesitation crept into the crusader ranks, though. Saladin had proven himself a worthy and tricky foe and, not knowing the extent to which his forces had been depleted, Richard feared that a retaliation attack, most likely another large-scale ambush, was very near. In addition, the weather in the winter months had

KNOW THY ENEMY: SALADIN

The main features and kit of the most respected Muslim warrior of all

2700
…risoners …rd had …ed in the city of Acre

Swords
Straight and deadly
The swords the Saracens used in the period of the Crusades were generally straight, unlike the curved blades often depicted in films of the period.

Armour
For the high-ranking
While the lower ranking Saracens wore little or no armour higher ranking warriors and leaders such as Saladin would often wear mail coats or other armour under their robes.

Horseback rider
Warfare on the move
The Saracen army in the Third Crusade had a good number of cavalrymen more than their Christian counterparts. The soldiers on these horses were normally archers and could be very effective when harassing their enemy

Physical appearance
Slight, not scary
Most accounts of Saladin make reference to him being quite slight and frail – he did not have the imposing physical stature of Richard but was well respected for his wisdom and piety

The modern day city of Jerusalem

Salāh ad-Dīn Yūsuf ibn Ayyūb (Saladin) was the first sultan of Egypt and Syria and the founder of the Ayyubid dynasty. He was elevated to this lofty position through a series of military victories, first under the Fatimid government and then his own leadership, with him overseeing the decisive Battle of Hattin in 1187. It was due to Saladin himself that the Third Crusade was instigated, with the fallout from the Battle of Hattin and the fall of Jerusalem leading to the famous 'Saladin tithe', a tax levied in England and some parts of France to finance an army that was capable of reclaiming the holy territory.

Despite Saladin and Richard's armies clashing multiple times during the Third Crusade, the two men famously shared a more complicated relationship than would have been expected, with great respect reported on both sides. After the Battle of Arsuf – a battle in which Saladin's army was soundly beaten – Saladin sent Richard two excellent horses as Richard had lost his own in the battle. The two men never met in person, though, and Saladin died a year after the Third Crusade, struck down by a fever while staying in Damascus.

taken a marked turn for the worse, with heavy rain and hail leading to poor conditions under foot. These factors caused Richard to pause for thought rather than make straight for the holy city and he consulted his fellow crusaders. It was agreed that if they started besieging Jerusalem and were hit with a relieving force from Saladin, the general poor conditions would lead to a massacre. As such, Richard ordered a retreat back to the coast. The attack would have to wait.

2000 soldiers fought in the Third Crusade's last battle at Jaffa

The invading army spent the rest of the winter months in Ascalon before continuing hostilities in the spring of 1192. Saladin, who had been forced by his emirs (commanders) to disband much of what was left of his army – the emirs favouring consolidation rather than open hostilities – launched no major attack. However, bands of Saracen troops constantly plagued the crusaders, with a series of small fights and skirmishes slowly eroding the crusader army's numbers and morale. This came to a head on 22 May when the fortified town of Darum fell to the crusader forces after five days of bloody fighting. The crusaders had won great battles in the Holy Land but no more armies were journeying across the Mediterranean to bolster their forces; those men who fell in battle weren't going to be replaced. Richard's crusade was faltering, its primary purpose slipping away like sand in an hourglass.

The crusading king of England managed to marshal his remaining forces together for one last advance on Jerusalem, marching inland in June of that year. This time, far from being checked at Beit Nuba, the crusaders actually came within sight of the hallowed city. The time, it appeared, had finally come. Richard was to return Jesus's city to its rightful owners and reinstate Christianity as the dominant religious and military power in the Holy Land. However, as the tired, dusty and bronzed warriors stood there watching the distant city from afar, once more the poison of dissent started to seep among its leaders.

Despite standing before the city, months of resentment over the course the Crusade had taken boiled over among the military commanders, with debate over the best military course of action descending into personal attacks and squabbles. The majority of the leaders, including Richard, believed the best way to take Jerusalem was not besiege it but to attack Saladin directly in Egypt, thereby forcing him to relinquish it of his own free will as a bargaining chip to prevent his own fall. However, the leader of the surviving French crusaders, the Duke of Burgundy Hugh III, believed the only course of action was an immediate and direct assault on the city. News of the split in the leaders' plans filtered down to the crusaders themselves, with the knights and soldiers now breaking previous allegiances and siding with one side or the other, splitting the crusader army in two.

Neither of the two forces were now powerful enough to assault a city, let alone Jerusalem, and as such Richard was forced to order a retreat. While progressing back toward the coast, angry with the French, Richard decided to return to England. However, just as he was approaching Jaffa, news arrived via a scout that the city had fallen to Saladin, who had personally overseen the assault. Furthermore, the scout reported that the lives of all the people there were under a very real threat as the Muslim ruler had lost control of his army, the thousands of Muslim soldiers driven berserk due to the massacre at Acre.

With the lives of the surviving crusaders very firmly in his hands – after all, it had been Richard who ordered the Acre executions – a return to England would have to wait. With a band of 2,000 surviving knights and soldiers, Richard launched one final assault on Saladin, approaching Jaffa by sea in a surprise attack. The Ayyubid soldiers who had only just taken the city were completely unprepared for the attack and were soon overrun, with a combination of knights and crusader crossbowmen decisively breaking their resistance. The attack was so brutally effective that Saladin was forced to flee from Jaffa to the south.

This would be the final battle of the Crusade for Saladin and Richard. Following Jaffa's second

CRUSADING KING OR BLOODY MURDERER?

Historian Douglas Boyd gives his verdict on the Lionheart

Despite Richard's leading role in the Third Crusade the opinion of Victorian historian Bishop William Stubbs was that this king was "a bad ruler, whose love of war effectively disqualified him from being a peaceful one his utter want of political common sense from being a prudent one." Stubbs called him "a man of blood, whose crimes were those of one whom long use of warfare had made too familiar with slaughter, and a vicious man."

Respected historian of the crusades Sir Steven Runciman balanced the two sides of Richard's character: "He was a bad son, a bad husband and a bad king, but a gallant and splendid soldier." While Richard consistently displayed supreme physical courage, gallant and splendid are not adjectives one would use today of the man who slaughtered 3,000 prisoners at the siege of Acre and nearly bankrupted the kingdom twice in his ten-year reign. The enduring legend of Richard as a heroic Christian warrior is due to the brilliant public-relations campaign of his mother, Eleanor of Aquitaine, to raise the ransom when he was taken hostage returning to England after the events of the Third Crusade.

Douglas Boyd is the author of *Lionheart: The True Story Of England's Crusading King*, published by The History Press.

"RICHARD BELIEVED THE BEST WAY TO TAKE JERUSALEM WAS NOT BESIEGE IT BUT TO ATTACK SALADIN DIRECTLY IN EGYPT"

Richard the Lionheart's forces on the march toward Jerusalem

WHY WAS JERUSALEM SO SOUGHT AFTER?

The geographical region of Palestine, between the River Jordan and the Mediterranean Sea, was referred to as the Holy Land by Christians and Muslims alike. Both religions claimed ownership due to an association with their faith, with the city of Jerusalem held in particular esteem. Both Islam and Christianity were Abrahamic monotheistic religions and as such, both sides considered the other to be unbelievers in the one true god and considered their presence heretical.

By the Third Crusade, Jerusalem and large parts of Palestine and the Levant region had changed hands again and again, with conflicts destabilising the region. Richard, coming from the Christian West, therefore perceived the fall of Jerusalem to Saladin's forces in 1187 as a direct attack on his faith. From Saladin's point of view he was merely taking back the spiritual heartland of his own faith, one that had previously rested in the hands of infidels.

fall, the region entered a limbo-like stasis, with the Christian crusaders and Muslim Ayyubids sapped of any further willpower for bloodshed. The fighting had gone on for three years and large parts of the historic area lay in ruins. Tens of thousands of men, women and children had lost their lives and, despite some areas of the Levant changing hands, nothing had really changed. Jerusalem remained under Muslim control, Saladin was ruler of the Ayyubid Empire and Richard the Lionheart was still the fierce warrior king with a renowned reputation in Europe without a firm foothold in the Holy Land. What had changed, though, was Saladin and Richard's desire for more war and bloodshed, and so a treaty soon followed. Jerusalem would remain under Muslim control but from now on, Christian pilgrims and traders would be permitted to visit the city, with their rights protected by law.

17 Months Richard Lionheart remained in the Holy Land

For Richard, the treaty was to be his last act in the Holy Land and the final curtain for the Third Crusade, with the king setting out on his return to England immediately after. His return journey, though, would not be as straightforward as the one over, with a series of events leading to his own capture, temporary imprisonment and yet more battles. However, the war he would go down in history for was his quest for the Holy Land – a journey full of bloodshed, plunder and religious fanaticism, but little territorial success. It ensured his legacy would forever be debated between those who see him as a crusading Christian king and others who view him as an amoral, cold-blooded killer, a debate that still rages on today.

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10 plundering pirates

There isn't a wooden leg or a shoulder-perching parrot in sight in our list of ten horrifying pirates who terrorised the high seas

Written by Owen Williams

Imagine you're the captain of a British, Spanish or French ship, going about your law-abiding business in the Caribbean in 1718. Suddenly your lookout spies a ship – or several – on the horizon heading toward you. It's trouble. Worse even than a rival businessman or representatives of an opposing country, you're about to have an encounter with a pirate crew. Cutlasses clash and guns and cannons roar as you're boarded and overrun. Overseeing everything is a man in a brightly coloured coat, ribbons in his massive beard and a hat he appears to have deliberately lit on fire. This is not what you signed up for.

Piratical activity was first recorded in the 14th century BCE and ancient pirates included the Illyrians and Tyrrhenians, as well as renegades among the Greeks and Romans. By 258 CE, the Goths were on the rampage and the Middle Ages gave us the Vikings and the Frisians, but it's the period between 1650 and 1730 that's come to be known as the 'golden age' of piracy. It was a time when, if you were very unlucky, you might have encountered Blackbeard, Calico Jack, Long Ben, Black Bart or Captain Kidd. Robert Louis Stevenson gave us Long John Silver and Blind Pew, while movies have recently introduced us to Jack Sparrow, but Blackbeard and co were the real pirates of the Caribbean; larger than life, with no fictional embellishment necessary.

Pirates were killers and thieves, but there's something about their sheer brutality mixed with colourful theatricality that still fascinates us. They weren't just brigands; somehow they had style. Here are ten of the worst – or the best, depending on your point of view – pirates that ever sailed and terrorised the seven seas.

A painting depicting the 1718 battle between Blackbeard and Lieutenant Maynard in Ocracoke Bay

BLACKBEARD'S MENTOR

While his protégé went on to become famous, Benjamin Hornigold has become little more than a footnote in Blackbeard's story. It's a shame because he's no less impressive, starting his pirate career in small canoe-like craft but building up to a 30-gun sloop and a 350-man flotilla within five years. Blackbeard was his second-in-command and they occasionally attacked ships just for a laugh: on one occasion they stole only a crew's hats before letting them go. Hornigold accepted the royal pardon in 1718 and became a pirate hunter.

The most infamous pirate of them all

BLACKBEARD 1680-1718

Just the name Blackbeard conjures up images of seagoing villainy and bloodshed. He would have enjoyed that legacy. A man of considerable height and build, he's reported as wearing a long, brightly coloured coat, knee-length boots and a sling over his shoulder containing six pistols. There was also the exceptional beard, of course, in which he twisted bits of coloured ribbon; he knew the theatrical value of a fearsome appearance.

Records say Blackbeard's name was Edward Teach, although most pirates used fake names. He was born in the city of Bristol around 1680, a famous port from which, at that time, the slave trade was booming. He could read and write and it's thought he fought against the French in Queen Anne's War as a privateer: an independent sailor authorised to attack enemy ships during wartime.

Four years after the war ended, however, he was still attacking the French, seizing the merchant vessel La Concorde, equipping her with 40 guns and renaming her Queen Anne's Revenge. From the deck of his floating fortress he built a flotilla of at least eight vessels, crewed by loyal followers and plundering ships that crossed his path.

One of his most notorious gambits was the blockade of Charleston, a port town in South Carolina, in 1718. Blackbeard's flotilla ransacked nine ships in a single week as they attempted to enter or leave the harbour, holding the passengers of one of them hostage and demanding 'medical supplies' in exchange for not sending their heads to Charleston's governor. Drugs received, Blackbeard kept his word and released the prisoners, although he kept their valuables.

Later that year the Queen Anne's Revenge ran aground and Blackbeard accepted a royal pardon. But he was soon back to his old tricks and fought his final battle a year later off Ocracoke, North Carolina, killed by the crew of HMS Jane, which sailed under Royal Navy Lieutenant Robert Maynard. He was shot five times, suffered more than 20 sword-cuts and his head was hung from Maynard's bowsprit.

Which seas did he terrorise?

West Indies; Americas; Caribbean

Most blood-curdling moment:

Many spooky legends sprang up about Blackbeard. The best is that his headless body swam three times around the ship on its own after it was thrown overboard.

The pirate hunter who got it wrong

WILLIAM KIDD 1645-1701

Some feel that the Scottish Captain Kidd wasn't a pirate at all, but a victim of circumstance. He was commissioned as a privateer in 1689 and noted for his violence, but hit troubled waters in 1698 when he attacked and took over the Quedagh Merchant, thinking her French due to her documentation. She turned out to have an English captain, so Kidd was branded a renegade and hanged in 1701. His rotting body graced a cage over the Thames for many years.

Which seas did he terrorise?

Atlantic

Most blood-curdling moment:

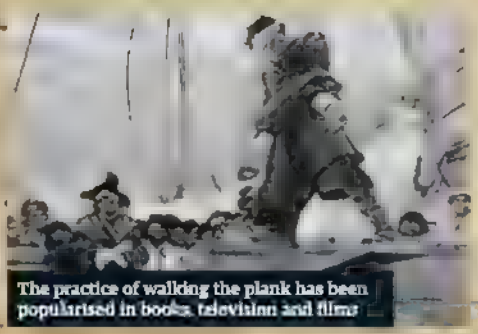
Kidd's execution was horribly botched; the noose broke twice, and he only died on his third hanging. His body was then doused in tar so it would last longer on public display over the Thames.

Captain William Kidd welcomes a [illegible] aboard his ship

THREE PIRATE MYTHS

Captives had to walk the plank

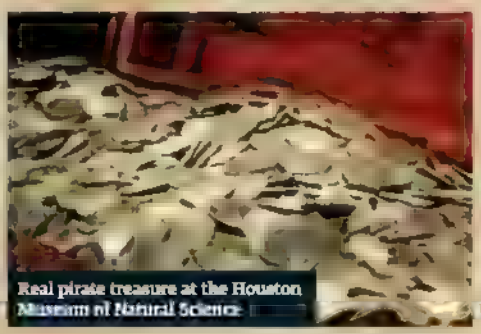
There are various theories as to the reason pirates made their victims walk the plank. One suggests it was simply for sadistic entertainment, while another is that it was a way for pirates to avoid murder charges: they couldn't be convicted if their victims walked off a plank of their own volition. What's most likely, however, is that the practice rarely, if ever, took place at all.



The practice of walking the plank has been popularised in books, television and films

Pirates buried their treasure

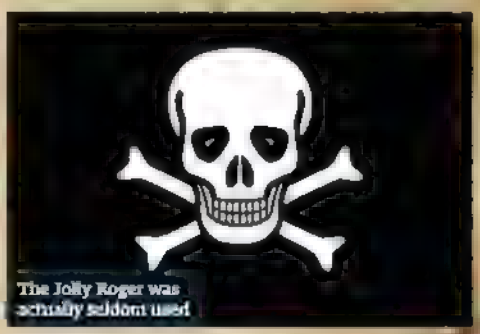
Captain Kidd buried his treasure on Gardiners Island off New York when he was a wanted man. Sadly for him, it was uncovered and used as evidence against him. Its legend spread, however, leading to treasure hunts and its inclusion in stories by Washington Irving and Edgar Allan Poe. Most pirates didn't bury their loot, though, preferring to spend it as quickly as possible.



Real pirate treasure at the Houston Museum of Natural Science

The all had a skull and crossbones

There are recorded examples of some pirates using the iconic Jolly Roger flag but the majority would fly a plain black flag or one that was completely red - some believe the term Jolly Roger comes from 'jolie rouge', which is French for 'pretty red.' Pirates also often used an hourglass on their flags, to symbolise how little time their intended victims had to live.



The Jolly Roger was actually seldom used

The pirate with the code of honour

BLACK BART 1682-1722

Bartholomew Roberts was active as a pirate off the Americas and West Africa for three years between 1719 and 1722. In the Welshman's early career at sea he was a mate on the slave ship Princess, but he took to his new career when the Princess fell to Captain Howell Davis and Roberts joined his crew aboard the Royal Rover.

Roberts quickly gained the trust of fellow countryman Davis by being able to speak in his mother tongue and also distinguished himself as a navigator. He was involved in Davis's kidnapping and ransom of the governor of the African island of Principe, and when Davis was shot and killed, Roberts was elected captain. Reports suggest he was still a reluctant pirate, but that he decided it was "better to be a captain than a common man", and resolved to live "a short life but a merry one." His first act on taking over the ship was to seek revenge on his former captain's killers.

Roberts and his men successfully came through a daring encounter with the Portuguese fleet in 1720, boarding and capturing a 40-gun vessel and making off with treasure intended for King John V. They continued raiding for two more years, until Roberts was shot in the throat and killed in a conflict with the English HMS Swallow in 1722. A famous figure among pirates, Roberts was instrumental in drawing up a pirate code and when he died, his crew buried him at sea, wrapping him in his ship's sail before hoisting his body into the watery grave where he would rest for eternity

Which seas did he terrorise?

Gulf of Guinea, Atlantic; Caribbean, West Africa

Most blood-curdling moment:

Bart and his men killed most of the men on the island of Principe in a single night and escaped with all the treasure they could carry.

"Blackbeard seized the merchant vessel La Concorde and renamed her Queen Anne's Revenge"

The scourge of the Spanish colonies

HENRY MORGAN 1635-1688

Sir Henry Morgan was granted a privateer's license by the English government in 1668 and made it his life's work to harass Spain and their ships. He captured Spanish castles and land, and extorted Panama for a fortune until England managed to restrain him. Morgan later captured Spanish Panama for Jamaica, again to the embarrassment of the English, who were not at war with Spain at the time. He was never prosecuted, however, but died in 1688 of alcohol poisoning.

Which seas did he terrorise?

South America; Gibraltar

Most blood-curdling moment:

When a Portobello woman refused to give up the money he believed she was hiding, Morgan had her stripped naked and roasted on a baking stove.

Henry Morgan was a privateer-turned-pirate

THE PIRATE CODE

Pirates were lawless and anti-establishment by nature, but they didn't live lives of total anarchy. Sailing ships required a hierarchy to function and sailors on pirate ships expected pay and job security just as they would on a legitimate vessel. So pirate codes were common, such as the one drawn up by Bartholomew Roberts. Its articles included that:

1. Every man had an equal vote when decisions were necessary and an equal entitlement to clothes, food and drink.
2. Any man stealing from their compatriots would have their nose and ears slit and be marooned at the next shore.
3. Brawling was forbidden. Arguments were to be settled by formal duel only.
4. Any injured pirate was entitled to compensation. Loss of a limb was worth 800 pieces of eight.

Mary Read was one of the most famous female pirates ever

The femme fatale of the Caribbean

MARY READ 1691-1720

Female buccaneers were far from unheard of during the golden age of piracy, but that didn't prevent Mary Read from dressing as a man for most of her ocean-going career. Strangely, she was even raised as a boy by her widowed mother, in order that they could continue living on an allowance intended for her dead older brother. Read took his place in disguise; her grandmother was none the wiser and the ruse worked well into Read's teenage years.

Continuing to hide her gender, Read joined the British military and gained a reputation as a ferocious fighter during the War of Spanish Succession, but did eventually marry and settle down, running an inn with her husband in the Netherlands for a time. When he died, however, she put on her old outfits again and resumed her military career, until a ship she was aboard was taken by pirates on the way to the West Indies. Read joined them immediately.

Hooking up with 'Calico' Jack Rackham in 1720, she formed a close friendship with Jack's partner Anne Bonny, the only other woman known to have been convicted of piracy during its heyday. They were involved in the plunder of several vessels until Rackham and his crew were captured. The crew were caught off guard and taken to Jamaica for trial and execution.

Read and Bonny had actually put up a vicious fight, berating their male colleagues for not doing likewise, but they were outmatched, and Read, having escaped the noose by pleading pregnancy, eventually died in prison of a fever.

Which seas did she terrorise?

Bahamas; Caribbean

Most blood-curdling moment:

Fearing that a man she fancied would be killed in a duel, Read challenged his opponent to a duel and killed him.

The torturing terror of the Caribbean

CHARLES VANE 1680-1721

Contrary to reputation, many pirates were not particularly violent. Charles Vane was different. Yet another pirate operating out of the New Providence colony, he was notorious for murder – including of captives who'd been promised mercy on surrender – torture, and cheating his crewmen. The English brigand began his career at sea, like many pirates, as a privateer during the War of Spanish Succession.

Two years after the war ended he was serving on board a ship commanded by the infamous pirate Henry Jennings, racing to Florida to plunder the gold from a Spanish shipwreck, and attacking the survivors on shore for good measure.

In April alone, Vane sacked 12 merchant vessels. In August he managed to resist capture by the English Navy by setting fire to one of his own ships and sending it toward the enemy lines in the hope of causing an explosion. The conflagration was avoided, but the ploy allowed Vane to escape. He continued until November, when a mutiny saw him deposed in favour of 'Calico' Jack Rackham.

In 1719 he was captured and turned over to the Jamaican authorities. He was hanged at Port Royal in 1721. He called for no defence witnesses at his trial and expressed no remorse

Which seas did he terrorise?

Bahamas; Caribbean

Most blood-curdling moment:

Having conquered the crew of Bermudan Diamond, Vane had a single member of its crew hanged to make a point. Amazingly, the man survived to tell the tale.

The pirate king of Campeche

JEAN LAFITTE 1775-1823

Lafitte started out as a smuggler operating out of a New Orleans warehouse in 1805. By 1810 he had moved to Louisiana's Barrataria Bay and embarked on a more action-packed pirate life. The Bay became a well-known hub of pirate activity, as did Galveston Island on the Texas Gulf Coast five years later. Jean had been sent there as a spy for the Spanish, but subverted the mission to his own mercenary ends. Creating a rogue independent state he called Campeche, he encouraged ships sailing out of his stronghold to pillage vessels of all nations. Sadly for Lafitte a hurricane wiped out the colony in 1818. Lafitte himself was killed attacking two Spanish ships in 1823.

Which seas did he terrorise?

Gulf of Mexico

Most blood-curdling moment:

When the governor of Louisiana offered a $300 reward for Lafitte's capture, Lafitte countered with a $1,000 reward for the capture of the governor.

"Charles Vane avoided capture by setting fire to one of his own ships and sending it toward the English Navy"

The Constantinople corsair and Ottoman admiral

REDBEARD 1478-1546

Hayreddin Barbarossa predates the likes of Blackbeard by 200 years and his piracy had loftier motives than plunder. The Turk was provoked into action by the constant attacks on North Africa by the Spanish and Portuguese between 1505 and 1511.

Dreaming of escaping European oppression and creating their own African state, he and his crews stalked the Mediterranean for more than a decade, earning support and reinforcements from the Ottoman Sultan that facilitated their capture of Algiers in 1529.

Algiers became a pirate stronghold, as did Tunisia the following year. Barbarossa even went on to vanquish the fleet of Holy Roman Emperor Charles V in 1538 and was a respected member of the nobility in Constantinople until his death in 1546. Not bad for a buccaneer!

Which seas did he terrorise?

Mediterranean

Most blood-curdling moment:

At the Battle of Preveza in 1538, Barbarossa 'single-handedly' (commanding 122 ships) defeated the combined forces of Venice, the Vatican, Genoa, Spain, Portugal and Malta.

Redbeard defeated the Holy League of Charles V

The pirate who designed the flag

CALICO JACK 1682-1720

John Rackham – known for his colourful calico clothing, and as the man who designed the skull 'n' crossbones of the Jolly Roger – had been active as a pirate long before he encountered Anne Bonny Rackham had led a mutiny against the English pirate Charles Vane in 1718, gaining command of the sloop Ranger, and shortly afterward he and his newly assembled band of brothers took the merchant ship Kingston and several other vessels off the coast of Bermuda. The theft of the Kingston excited the ire of other nearby merchants, however, so Rackham quickly lost it again to bounty hunters. He and his men were ashore as the ship was taken, hiding in the woods nearby

After accepting, as did many others, the royal pardon as part of the general amnesty in 1719, Rackham settled for a time on New Providence, until he met Bonny and resumed his former career. Voiding his pardon by stealing a new sloop, he spent the next two months terrorising the Caribbean, usually assimilating the crews of the ships he plundered, thereby accumulating a sizeable flotilla.

It all came to a sad end in 1720, however, when Bahamas Governor Woodes Rogers issued a warrant for the apprehension of Rackham and his crew. Pirate hunter Jonathan Barnett caught them drunk and unawares at Harbour Bay, Jamaica, and they were tried and executed in Spanish Town just under a month later. Rackham's body was hung from a gibbet at the entrance to Port Royal. The spot is known to this day as Rackham's Cay.

Which seas did he terrorise?

Bahamas; South America; Caribbean

Most blood-curdling moment:

On release, Jack would ask his captives if they felt they'd been treated well. If they said they hadn't, he would have the crewmen that abused them killed in front of them for their satisfaction.

Jack Rackham had a big influence on how we visualise pirates today

The pirate who got away with everything

LONG BEN 1659-?

Henry Every, popularly known as Long Ben, was one of the most successful pirates of all time, despite his career only lasting two years. His was known as 'the king of pirates', and his brief career netted him a colossal fortune.

Every was born in the English West Country. He spent a year in the Royal Navy between 1689 and 1690, following that stint as a slaver along the coast of Africa, before finding employ as a mariner in 1693 aboard the warship Charles II. A disagreement over pay led to a mutiny and Every became captain. He renamed the vessel Fancy and fashioned it into one of the fastest ships on the Atlantic, heading for a life of piracy.

Over the following months the Fancy hugged the African coastline, relieving merchantmen of their wealth and provisions. Other pirates were fair game too, with Every plundering a French ship whose crew was happy to join his own, bolstering his numbers to over 150 men.

His most spectacular success came in 1695 when he joined forces with five other pirate captains to take on an astonishing 25 ships of the Indian fleet en route to Gujarat. Early encounters saw half of Every's allies defeated, but the Fancy pursued the Indian Fateh Mohammed and sacked it, taking in £60,000 in treasure. As if that weren't enough Every and his brigands took on the Indian flagship the Ganj-i-sawai a few days later. Despite its 1,600 tonnes and 80 cannons, it too was defeated and Every scored a fortune of between £200,000 and £600,000.

He became the first-ever target of a worldwide manhunt, but disappeared with his loot. No record of him exists after 1696 and his ultimate fate remains a mystery.

Which seas did he terrorise?

Indian Ocean; Atlantic; Mediterranean

Most blood-curdling moment:

Every's men raped and murdered their way through the decks of the Ganj-i-sawai. Many of the Muslim women and slave girls on board committed suicide rather than face the pirates.

Like many pirates, Long Ben started his life on the seas with the Royal Navy

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How scrubland became home to modern movie industry

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ALL ABOUT HISTORY

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IMAGINE PUBLISHING

1929
THE WEEK THE WORLD WENT BUST

Panic took over on Black Tuesday as stock prices sunk lower than ever before, sending shock waves through international markets and heralding the arrival of the Great Depression

Written by Gavin Thomas

Richard Whitney was a man who lived beyond his means, surrounding himself with luxury and power, swimming in the richest social circles of New York. Treasurer of the Yacht Club, vice president of the New York Stock Exchange, he was one of the most powerful men in the country. Looking down onto Wall Street through a window high up in the Exchange building at the height of summer in 1929, the rays of the sun shone brightly on the streets, giving them a golden glow. For Whitney and others the streets may as well have been paved with gold, such was the amount of money that some were making in the city that famously never sleeps. Whitney could never have guessed that the stocks he owned were going to nosedive, that he would become infamous for embezzling money or that scenes of panic and desperation would unfold on the street beneath him. Right then, much like the rest of the US, he was convinced that the good times wouldn't stop.

The United States had been thriving throughout the Jazz Age and it seemed that nothing could stop its relentless rise to true prosperity. After a shaky start in the years immediately following the end of the Great War, the economy had bounced back on its feet while Europe remained in a slump, hard-hit and shattered from fighting across the continent. France was severely underpopulated and Germany was economically crippled due to the cost of war and the Treaty of Versailles, relying on loans from countries like the United States. But in bustling cities across the Atlantic Ocean like New York it was a different world; business was booming and driving a market bubble the likes of which the world had never seen before.

New technologies were being brought to market, better and more modern models quickly replacing the last as all sorts of wonders suddenly became available. The 1920s was a time of great innovation and for the first time people could afford to buy brand-new devices like electric blenders, toasters

—Talk like a broker—

Financial terms explained

Speculation
Buying stocks in businesses with the hope of selling them once the price has risen.

Selling short
Selling stocks you've borrowed, waiting for their market price to drop and then buying them back again, so you can return the stocks and keep the profit.

Margin
A deposit for the broker, collateral in case you can't pay up later

Before the Wall Street Crash many Americans had been living beyond their means

Richard Whitney, vice president of the New York Stock Exchange

Many soup kitchens opened up during the Great Depression

and vacuum cleaners for their homes. Great industrial titans like Henry Ford were making their fortunes too, with the new Model A replacing the original Model T, and Chrysler's Dodge and Plymouth cars hitting the road as the great marques made their mark on the US. In 1926, 4.3 million automobiles were produced, rising to nearly 5.4 million in 1929. It was an exciting time, the first great economic boom in recorded history and made much more intense by the sudden frenzy of speculation that swept the nation.

The latest craze to make it into the dance clubs and cafes, the brokers' offices and even homes, was having a ticker on the wall that gave the latest stock quotes. For years speculation had been part of the arcana of powerful Wall Street bankers, investors and stock traders, people who made a fortune – and maybe lost it again – in a day's work. Above them was an elite group of individuals across New York who came together to discuss the market and agree a silver-lined nudge here, a deep investment there. These were men like Charles Mitchell of National City Bank, Thomas Lamont of JP Morgan and John Rockefeller. But now for the first time, everyday people had access to brokers' offices, since a rash of these offices had spread across the country in recent times, in which they could speculate alongside the best of Wall Street.

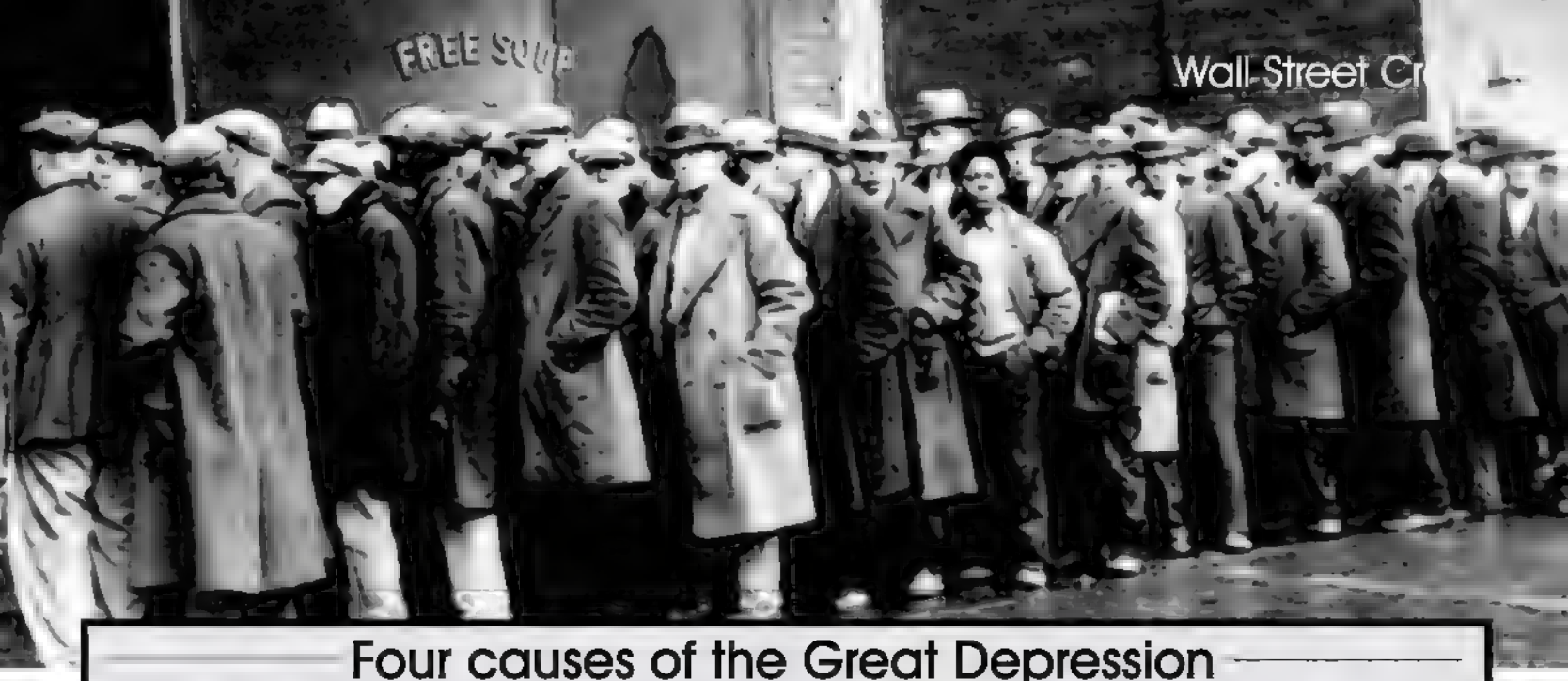
"Foreign businesses began to pour their money into New York stocks as word of 12 per cent returns reached them"

For most people, all they knew was that they could make a heck of a lot of money betting on the stock market – nearly everyone was doing it.

These investors out for a quick buck could borrow beyond their means in order to buy stocks, and one common way of doing this was to buy on the margin. Essentially, this meant that someone could put up only a small amount of the money required and then reap the profits on both that part and the part provided by the broker. It was possible to get up to 75 per cent on the margin, and toward the end of 1929 almost 90 per cent of stocks traded were done so on the margin. It was indicative of the times, as the 1920s was when 'buy-now-pay-later' came into the fore, with hundreds of thousands of people getting themselves into debt in order to take these new consumer goods home for nothing more than a deposit and an IOU.

Stocks were the talk of the town and newspapers were full of stories of teachers, maids and factory workers suddenly making it big in one of the offices downtown. It was the easiest thing in the world; you simply buy up some stock, wait for the price to rise again and sell it. The rate of return on investments – even those of the safest, most low-risk sort – continued to rise toward the end of 1928. Foreign businesses began to pour their money into New York stocks as fast as they could, as word of 12 per cent returns reached them, and so the financial boom was being shared in by the entire world. Some stocks were rising by as many as 20 points in a day during the months leading up to the crash, and on 12 June 1929 over five million shares traded hands. It seemed like nothing could stop the power of the free market.

The beginning of the end was Black Thursday, 24 October 1929, when 12.9 million shares were sold in a day. Heavy selling from the outset meant that the market immediately lost 11 per cent of its value, and the chaos was such that an emergency meeting was called among the elite bankers. Among the attendees of this meeting were Charles Mitchell, president of the National City Bank of New York, Richard Whitney, vice president of the New York Stock Exchange and Thomas Lamont, chairman of JP Morgan. Together, they decided to pool



Four causes of the Great Depression

Overproduction

Technological innovation brought more consumer goods to market, and the increases in demand led to a rise in industrial output. Yet there came a point at which there was not enough purchasing power to sustain this pace and as the market saturated, firms were left with rising costs and falling sales.

Bank runs

At the beginning of the decade there were over 30,000 independent banks in America; by 1931 over 2,000 had closed, and 9,000 by the end of the decade. Small banks were susceptible to bank runs that would ruin them. People would get spooked and withdraw their cash from a bank, threatening its solvency

No money

With the unemployment rate standing above 25 per cent at times, there was a reduction in spending throughout the economy. People were also having to pay back their buy-now-pay-later goods, pay their mortgages and then somehow pay other bills. There was a severe lack of disposable income

Debt

Just before the crash, around 90 per cent of speculation was done on the margin. Credit was freely available in the 1920s so people took advantage of this. National debt-to-GDP ratio was at an all time high before the Great Depression, at 300 per cent. But when the debts were called in, intense deflation set in.

The spectacular rise and fall of the Dow Jones Industrial Average

1. New year
1 January 1929
The mood was buoyant. Market confidence was at an all-time high and no one thought the good times could possibly end.

2. World record
3 September 1929
The prices climbed ever higher, setting a new record. At this point it seemed a whole nation thought the stock would rise indefinitely.

3. Black Thursday
24 October 1929
The first major crash. After an initial wobble the bottom fell out of the market. The market mood switched from buying to selling in an instant.

4. Black Tuesday
29 October 1929
The efforts of the Wall Street elite couldn't stem the flow of capital draining out of the market. Billions of dollars were lost.

5. Great crash
13 November 1929
Finally bottoming out in November, it seemed things couldn't get any worse. Recovery seemed a long way off, as people had lost their life savings, but at least the dreadful collapse of the market had begun to stabilise. There was a flicker of renewed confidence.

6. Recovery
17 April 1930
By the spring of 1930, it seemed the shocking events of the Wall Street Crash were over, as share prices began to approach their pre-crash peak. It reassured the world too, because by this stage international trade was taking a nose-dive as US credit dried up.

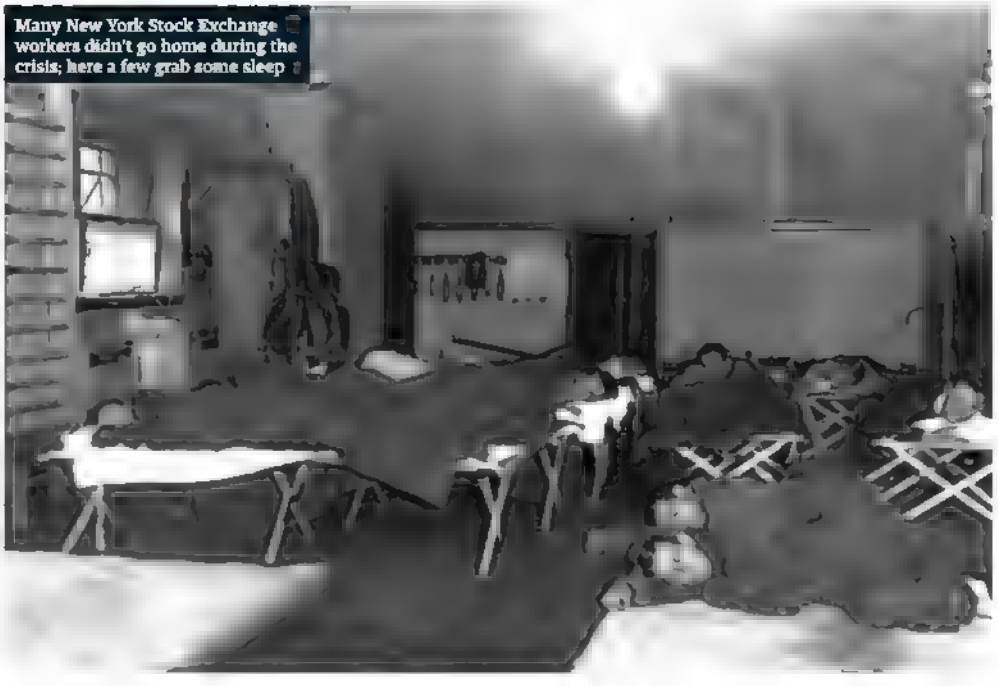
7. Greatest crash
8 July 1932
When it seemed the worst was over, the recovery turned into a landslide, far deeper and more prolonged than the short, sharp crash of Wall Street. An all-time low of just over 41 points was reached – mercifully, the stopping point.

$250 million in order to support key stocks and companies that would not only protect their own interests but also bolster market confidence

It seemed the national nerve was failing, though, that people were beginning to suspect there wouldn't always be someone available to sell to. An innocent enough thought by itself, but when magnified through a country full of people speculating on the assumption that prices are always going to keep rising, a very dangerous one indeed. Suddenly, there were no longer enough people to buy the stocks and keep everything changing hands. Owning stocks on the margin was no longer attractive – rather than make you money they could ruin you. The bubble burst spectacularly as people began to realise quite how much financial trouble they'd be in if the music stopped and they were left without a chair to sit in.

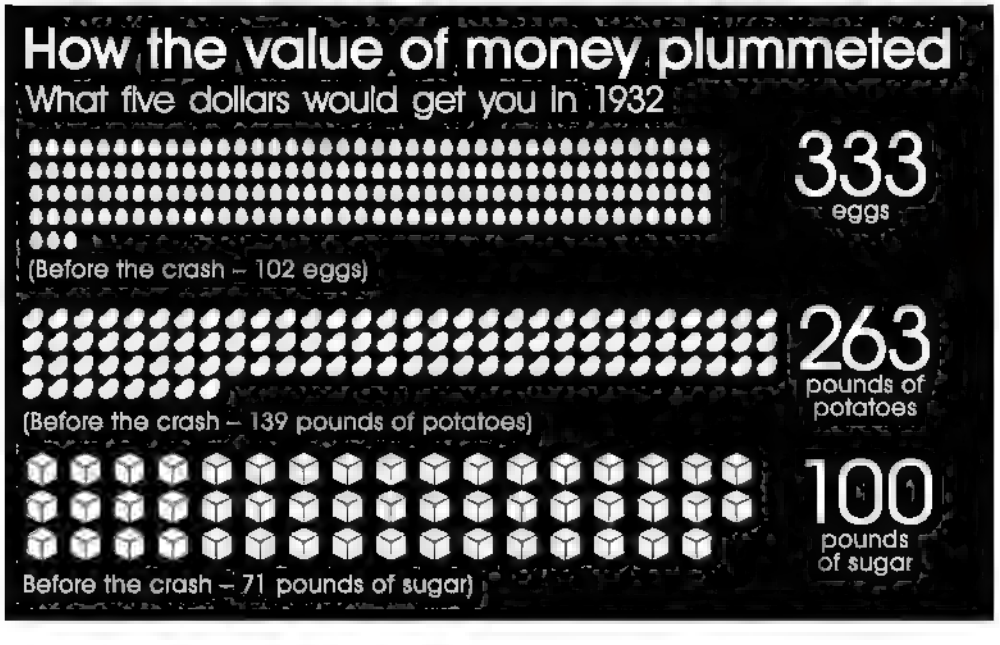
Richard Whitney led the charge from the Wall Street elite, rallying the traders by making audacious bids. Whitney confidently strode onto the floor of the New York Stock Exchange amidst the panic, bid $205 for 10,000 shares of US Steel and then went off to buy 25,000 other shares and make similar bids for a dozen other stocks. His calm demeanour and bold deployment of dollars reassured people, and for a while the general panic subsided. The scale of the fall on Black Thursday was matched by the recovery later that day and the rally led by Whitney was a testament to the skill of Wall Street's bankers.

Wall Street had already been warned at the beginning of autumn, though: "Stock prices have reached what looks like a permanently high plateau," said Irving Fisher. But although economists like Fisher had been sounding the market's death knell for months, predicting it had peaked and a crash was imminent, people could scarcely believe what had happened. Black Thursday came seemingly out of nowhere and complete disaster was only narrowly averted. A special police detail was dispatched to keep the peace on Wall Street as crowds started to gather around the Exchange on Broad Street, from which the cries of frantic traders could be heard on the street below.



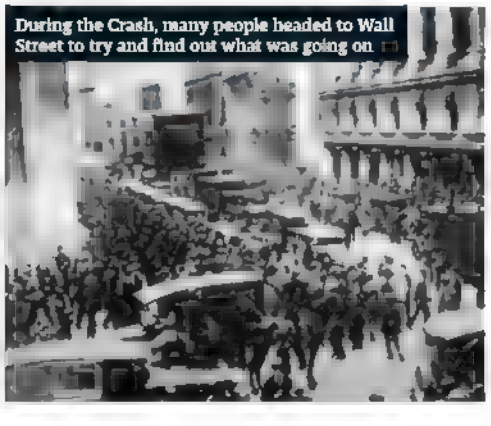
Many New York Stock Exchange workers didn't go home during the crisis; here a few grab some sleep

"Suddenly, there were no longer enough people to buy the stocks and keep everything changing hands"


How the value of money plummeted
What five dollars would get you in 1932
333
eggs
(Before the crash – 102 eggs)
263
pounds of potatoes
(Before the crash – 139 pounds of potatoes)
100
pounds of sugar
(Before the crash – 71 pounds of sugar)

The visitor's gallery in the Exchange, where Winston Churchill had been watching the desperate scene unfold, was closed at 12.30pm, though the crowds spilling outside soon continued to relay the news from the trading floor. Churchill had been taking a rail tour of Canada before he came to Wall Street, determined to make his fortune in the securities market. He was brought up to the gallery by a stranger who offered to show him what was going on as Churchill strolled along Wall Street and discovered the bedlam that had erupted. He'd invested in the Simmons Bedding Company among other stocks because he liked their advertisements, which he could hear on the radio, but he lost $100,000 in a day.

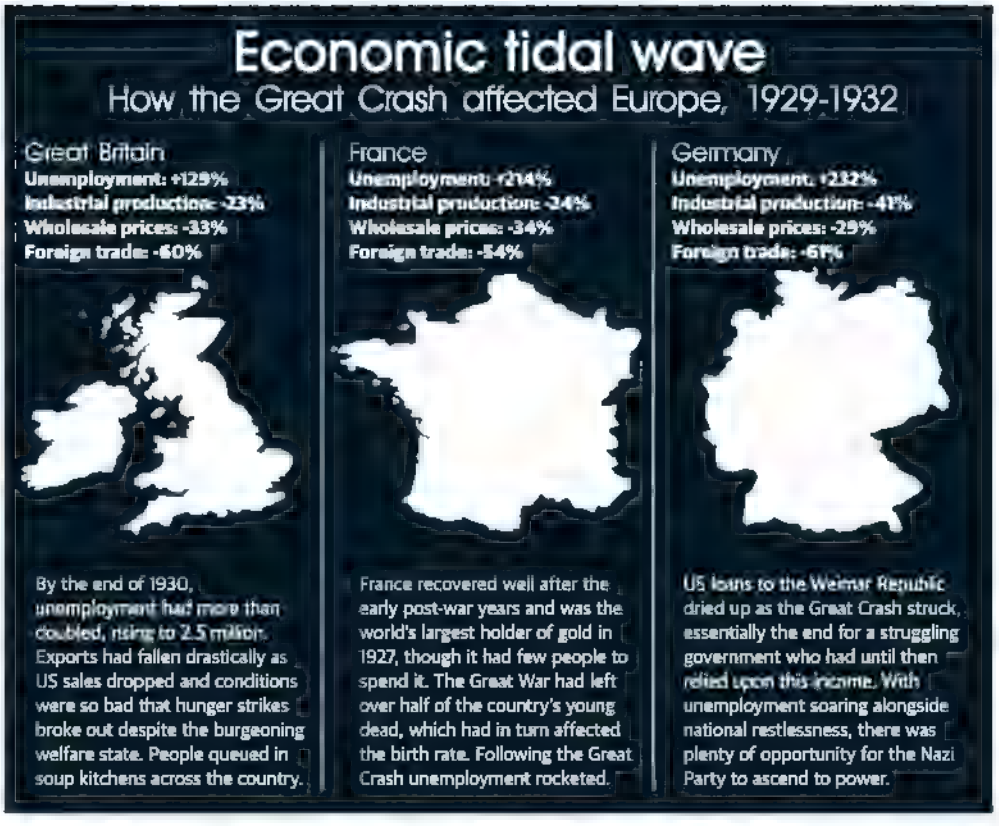
The weekend following Black Thursday was subdued and things more or less held together after a statement from the chairman of JP Morgan, Thomas Lamont, to reassure the press, but confidence totally ebbed once the market opened for trading again. On Black Monday, 28 October, the market fell another 13 per cent despite the continued efforts of power bankers to



During the Crash, many people headed to Wall Street to try and find out what was going on

buy colossal amounts of stock to prop it up. The next day, Black Tuesday, was brutal. The market fell another 11 per cent as over 16 million shares were desperately off-loaded. In total the Dow Jones Index had dropped 25 per cent over four days of trading, wiping $30 billion off the value of companies in the process - the equivalent of almost $400 billion today. Industry icon General Motors went down on Black Tuesday as did US Steel. The Wall Street elite continued to bail hard on the flooding deck of the ship, with William Durant of General Motors, Henry Ford and members of the Rockefeller family trying to demonstrate confidence by buying huge quantities of stock despite the hordes of people fleeing a routed market. Rockefeller bought a million shares in Standard Oil alone, and yet none of these grand gestures were enough. These heavyweight companies all lost massive amounts of their value, and in the years that followed, sales and employers vanished too.

Of course, not everyone was brought low by the great crash - a few people, like Jesse Livermore, managed to turn it into an opportunity. Jesse made his first speculative bets when he was around 16 years old. He had a knack for avoiding or thriving in disaster, making a load of money by selling stocks short before the San Francisco earthquake in 1906. Selling short is risky, yet somehow Livermore got away with it. He made over $1 million selling short


Economic tidal wave
How the Great Crash affected Europe, 1929-1932
Great Britain
Unemployment: +129%
Industrial production: -23%
Wholesale prices: -33%
Foreign trade: -60%
By the end of 1930, unemployment had more than doubled, rising to 2.5 million. Exports had fallen drastically as US sales dropped and conditions were so bad that hunger strikes broke out despite the burgeoning welfare state. People queued in soup kitchens across the country.
France
Unemployment: +214%
Industrial production: -34%
Wholesale prices: -34%
Foreign trade: -54%
France recovered well after the early post-war years and was the world's largest holder of gold in 1927, though it had few people to spend it. The Great War had left over half of the country's young dead, which had in turn affected the birth rate. Following the Great Crash unemployment rocketed.
Germany
Unemployment: +232%
Industrial production: -41%
Wholesale prices: -29%
Foreign trade: -61%
US loans to the Weimar Republic dried up as the Great Crash struck, essentially the end for a struggling government who had until then relied upon this income. With unemployment soaring alongside national restlessness, there was plenty of opportunity for the Nazi Party to ascend to power.

A man who has been financially wiped out by the Crash attempts to sell his expensive car

The worst crash?

How much was lost (adjusted for inflation*) in 1929 compared to other financial disasters?

Black Thursday, 24 October 1929
69 billion
$69,319,298,245

Black Tuesday, 29 October 1929
194 billion
$194,094,035,087

Black Monday, 19 October 1987
1 trillion
$1,043,450,704,225

Dot-com crash, late-1990s
1.3 trillion
$1,321,330,404,128

Black Monday 29 September 2008
7.7 trillion
$7,777,952,755,905

*Approximate figures

Sam Kattler was a street cleaner around Wall Street who amassed a small fortune, lost it in the Wall Street Crash and then went back to his former job

during a stock market crash in 1907 and he claimed to have made $3 million selling wheat short in 1925. During the great crash, he capitalised on the panic selling and made more than $100 million selling short, though he was to lose it all in the hard years that followed the crash.

The aftermath of the great crash of Wall Street was incredible. A nation's confidence was shattered and its economy left in tatters, paving the way for the world's worst financial crisis; the Great Depression. While Wall Street alone didn't cause the Great Depression, it was certainly a violent expression of the growing malaise. The boom times were bound to end, and once that moment the tide turned came – when there was a tacit acceptance that no one out there wanted to buy any more, and that you might not be able to sell to pay your debts – the lives of hundreds of thousands of Americans were brought crashing down.

Richard Whitney, Charles Mitchell, John Rockefeller, Thomas Lamont and countless other barons of business lost great swathes of their estates. Whitney would actually be imprisoned in 1936 for embezzlement and thousands of people turned up at Grand Central Station to watch him being escorted in handcuffs by armed guards onto a train bound for prison. Despite his imprisonment, Whitney still had his wealthy family and friends to lean on; most Americans weren't as lucky. Stores of all sorts closed as they struggled to find or pay for suppliers, warehouses emptied themselves of hard-working people since there were no contracts to pay their wages, the extravagant clubs couldn't find enough spenders to keep the doors open, and the butchers and barbers closed their shops for lack of customers. People lost their jobs, began eating frugally and infrequently and could no longer pay for the fuel to keep their cars running, or the electricity to keep their kitchen gadgets and bed warmers working. The ranks of the poor swelled as society slipped down a notch en masse, and as the winter winds blew through the New York streets they all grew cold together.

With unemployment, decimated purchasing power and no credit flowing through the economy, the Great Depression set in for the long haul. US exports suffered, as did its provision of loans to Germany. The lack of trade and aid in Germany turned an impoverished state into a hotbed for extremism, giving rise to the Nazi Party while the depression in Britain was felt even harder after the post-war struggle and lack of boom years that were enjoyed in the States. It seemed that USAs sudden loss of confidence during the great crash of Wall Street cost the world its spirit, turning a panic on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange into a prelude to disaster.

"Rockefeller bought a million shares in Standard Oil alone, but none of these grand gestures were enough"

The unfortunate American who lost it all

William Durant was among the biggest losers of the Great Crash. He started out as a cigar salesman in Michigan and went on to turn a $2,000 horse-drawn carriage venture into a $2 million franchise. Durant was later a co-founder of General Motors, a titan in the automotive industry. He made a fortune through speculation, including about $8 million in securities the year prior to the crash but he lost it all in the Wall Street Crash. He started selling his stock before the end, but he still lost $40 million.

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Public enemy number one

AL CAPONE

Arriving in Chicago as a minor league mobster, Al Capone helped build an empire of prostitution, bootlegging and murder that made him a notorious household name

Written by James Hoare

The needle skipped as the gun barked twice in the killer's hand, the record player screeching into the silence of the restaurant's corridor as its owner crashed to the floor, blood pooling out onto the polished tiles.

Giacomo 'Big Jim' Colosimo, his body cooling from its exit wounds, had recently left his wife, filing for divorce and skipping town to marry a 19-year-old cabaret singer. His ex-wife, Victoria Moresco, or one of her brothers, was the prime suspect in this crime of passion, but the police knew enough to pay a visit to two of Colosimo's associates – the genial Johnny Torrio and his sidekick, the disquieting Alfonse Capone, three nasty scars on his cheek contorting as he smiled. "Big Jim and me were like brothers," claimed Torrio, "Mr Colosimo and me both loved opera", added Capone. "He was a grand guy."

Colosimo's murder on 11 May 1920 is still regarded as unsolved, but perhaps it's a crime that Chicago Police Department chose to leave that way. For nearly a decade Colosimo had ruled Chicago through hard graft and intimidation – running over 100 brothels with his wife – and extorting protection money from most of the city's illegal gambling dens, the profits snaking through the entire city, supplementing the meagre wages of the cop on the street corner and boosting the bank account of the city's two-time mayor, William 'Big Bill' Hale Thompson.

Chicago was a rough town. Booming in the early 1920s thanks to heavy industry and cheap labour, the Windy City was a Wild West frontier town with chimney stacks instead of cacti and bullet-riddled Model-T Fords in lieu of horses. "She was vibrant and violent," wrote local journalist Robert St John, "stimulating and ruthless, intolerant of smugness, impatient with those either physically or intellectually timid."

Capone had arrived in Chicago from New York in 1919 to work for his old friend Torrio, who had earned Colosimo's trust by chasing off a rival extortion racket and stuck around as the boss's second in command. Capone soon put the feared reputation he had enjoyed back home to work as a debt collector, seeing first hand how Colosimo's operation held a stranglehold over the underworld; gambling dens who refused to pay up for Big Jim's protection would either find themselves the subject of a convenient police raid or – worse still – a visit from Capone, who was more than happy to break a few legs and mess up a card table with a swing from his baseball bat.

BILLIARDS

Capone in New York

Capone learned his trade in 1910s New York

Born in 1898 in a run-down district of Brooklyn to Italian immigrants Gabriele and Teresina Capone, Al Capone's life of crime began early, brawling with street gangs and running errands for mobsters. One, a young rising star called Johnny Torrio, would loom larger in his life later on.

Capone soon found work with Frankie Yale (born Francesco Ioele), a vicious thug with links to Torrio. Working as a barman in Yale's bar, the Harvard Inn – a notorious haunt of prostitutes and gangsters – Capone got the vicious scars on his face when he leered at one mobster's sister "Honey, you got a nice ass and I mean that as a compliment, believe me." The furious Frank Galluccio called Capone out and slashed him three times across his cheek with a knife. He needed 30 stitches, but he was lucky the hoodlum had been drinking because Galluccio was aiming for his jugular. In the bar he also picked up syphilis, which eventually caused his death, but may have affected him even earlier. Neurosyphilis attacks the brain and the spinal column, and can cause violent mood swings, delusions and megalomania.

Johnny Torrio

Even after handing control over to Capone after he was shot Torrio was still involved in organised crime and became a close associate of Lucky Luciano and other mob bosses.

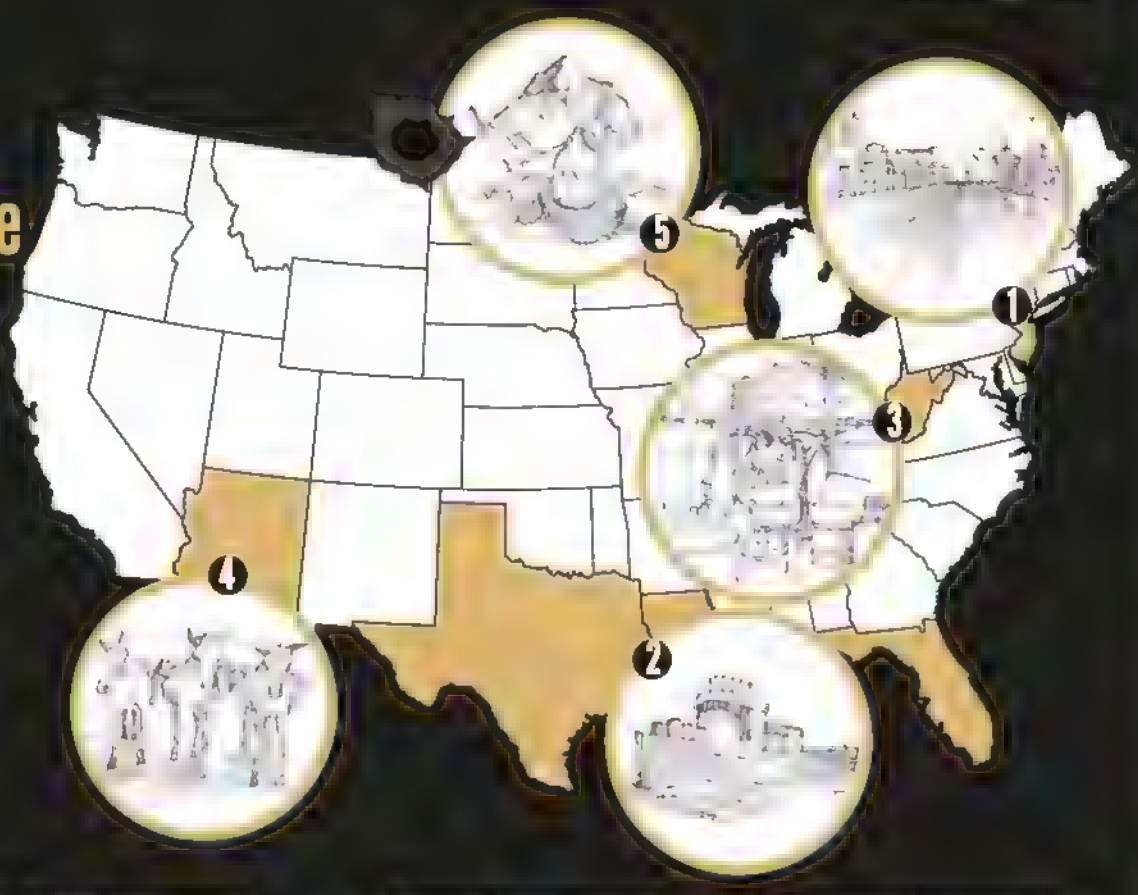
Compared to the claustrophobic Big Apple, where half a dozen gangs butted heads over a block at a time, Torrio and Capone found Chicago fertile for expansion, as the only thing that stood in their way was their own boss. In January 1920 the rules of the game changed again as the 18th Amendment to the US Constitution came into effect. Also known as the Volstead Act, which prohibited the production, transportation and sale of alcohol – but not the consumption – Prohibition meant a huge swathe of the population were suddenly transformed into potential customers. Torrio and Capone saw that this was a revenue stream with the potential to dwarf even prostitution and racketeering, but to their dismay Colosimo was having none of it. When Colosimo was conveniently removed from the picture, John 'The Fox' Torrio became the boss of the Chicago Outfit, and by his side stood Al Capone.

With Torrio's blessing, Capone set about covertly reopening breweries and distilleries that had been closed by the Volstead Act, setting up an ambitious distribution network to the city's mean speakeasies with the help of his older brothers Ralph and Frank Capone. "Nobody wanted Prohibition," he said. "This town voted six to one against it. Somebody had to throw some liquor on that thirst. Why not me?"

The loyal Ralph was put in charge of one of the Chicago Outfit's legal enterprises, a soft-drink bottling plant which earned him the nickname 'Bottles', while Frank honed a reputation for savagery that overshadowed even Al's. Estimated to have been responsible for 300 deaths, Frank infamously advised his little bother that, "you get no talk back from a corpse."

It was happening under Johnny Torrio's command but there was no doubt that bootlegging was Al Capone's kingdom, and he was soon to pay for it in blood as 1923 saw the downfall of Chicago's sticky fingered mayor, 'Big Bill' Thompson. The Democrat William Emmett Dever was voted in on a pledge to sweep the gangs

How America swam with booze



1. WHISKY ON THE BOARDWALK

Ships laden down with whisky from Canada would anchor off the coast of New Jersey, well beyond the maritime limit patrolled by the US Coast Guard. Smugglers would sail out to pick up the crates of booze and New Jersey's vast coastline became something of a free-for-all, with rival gangs hijacking each other's shipments. The hedonistic boardwalk resort of Atlantic City became the major gateway with the town's Irish-American racketeer Enoch 'Nucky' Johnson taking a major cut before it moved onward to Capone in Chicago or other mobs in New York and Jersey City.

2. RUM FROM THE CARIBBEAN

With Prohibition, Cuba emerged as a hedonistic getaway from the newly 'dry' US to the Bacardi-soaked Caribbean. Traffic flowed both ways, however, with 'rum runners' smuggling from Cuba, Jamaica and the Bahamas into South Florida, Texas and Louisiana.

In Texas, Galveston became the major entry point, supplying the rest of Texas and much of the Midwest. Dubbed the 'Free State of Galveston', brothers Sam and Rose Maceo ruled the local vice trade and successfully held off competition from Capone and New York boss Albert Anastasia.

3. A LAKE OF WHISKY

Although Ontario had its own temperance laws, they didn't ban distilling alcohol – leading to a flow of hooch across Lake Michigan and up the Detroit River from Windsor to Detroit. With illegally obtained papers saying their final destination was Venezuela, they would quietly off-load their cargo in Motor City instead. Detroit had been 'dry' well before Prohibition and the Purple Gang tightly controlled the rum-running trade and were major suppliers to Capone's Chicago Outfit.

4. MULES FROM MEXICO

Mass smuggling of US goods into Mexico was turned completely on its head thanks to Prohibition. Now home-made tequila and mescal was smuggled in the opposite direction by mule in groups of three or four, often crossing rivers at night, or by truck and car along dusty and isolated roads.

Texas's 1,300km (800mi) Mexican border was simply too wide be to adequately policed, and cat-and-mouse chases between the smugglers and Texas Rangers became the stuff of legend.

5. MOUNTAIN MOONSHINE

While champagne, gin, rum and whisky were available to those with the cash to cover its dangerous distribution, the poorer had to be taken care of too and moonshine cut the costs significantly.

Rural communities in the Appalachian Mountains and the Midwest had a tradition of home brew, but now a market opened up for their moonshine.

Stills could explode and quality control was poor and potentially life-threatening – but moonshiners often expanded their operations into barn-sized breweries.

from the city, and Torrio entrusted Capone with an urgent relocation to Cicero – the fourth largest city in Illinois – just outside of Chicago and the legislative reach of 'Decent Dever.' While Torrio and Capone had ruled their criminal empire largely as Colosimo had – with money in the right pockets and threats whispered in the right ears – the takeover of Cicero was an overt display of force, as Capone set about rigging the mayoral election for the mob's pet politician, Joseph Z Klenha.

On the eve of the 1924 mayoral election, Frank Capone burst into the office of the Democrat candidate for Cicero with some of his thugs, beating the hopeful to a pulp with their pistol butts, trashing his office and firing their revolvers into the ceiling as a preamble for the next day's audacious takeover. As cold, grey 1 April dawned, Capone hoods stormed into the polling stations to screen voters, snatching their ballot papers from them to ensure they were ticking the right box. Election officials with the stones to intervene were dealt with; a Democrat campaign worker was shot in the legs and dumped in a cellar, two other men were shot in the street and another had his throat cut.

Eventually, a desperate judge bussed in 70 Chicago police officers, deputised on the spot into the Cicero Police Department, to restore order. As the rain started to fall, Frank Capone found himself in a firefight outside a polling station. Opening fire on an approaching police car, he was gunned down by the startled cops, but it was too late – the town belonged to the Chicago Outfit. Frank got a funeral fit for war hero, with $20,000 worth of flowers placed around the silver plated coffin and over 150 cars in the motorcade.

Despite the appalling bloodshed in the takeover of Cicero, Al Capone had been something of an enigma to the press. However, as he got his hands dirtier and dirtier and frequently acted unstably – a possible consequences of syphilis contracted back in New York – his name was beginning to be heard outside of darkened back rooms where shady men made deals. A few weeks after Frank's body hit the pavement, small-time burglar 'Ragtime' Joe Howard was enjoying a drink in a bar, when two men

St Valentine's Day Massacre

A step by step account of the day when seven men were gunned down in cold blood

STEP 1

GIVING THE NOD

Mobster and boxer 'Machine Gun' Jack McGurn, a survivor of an attack by the rival North Side Gang, approaches Al Capone in his Miami winter home with a plan to take out the North Side leader, George Clarence 'Bugs' Moran and his lieutenants.

STEP 2

THE SET-UP

On 13 February 1929, McGurn has a booze hijacker approach Moran about selling him some top-end whisky for the bargain price of $57 a case, they arrange to meet in the morning. He adds the whisky is stolen from Detroit's Purple Gang – suppliers to Capone's mob.

STEP 3

THE LOOK-OUTS

McGurn stations lookouts – the brothers Harry and Phil Keywell, both members of the allied Purple Gang – in an apartment opposite Moran's headquarters, a nondescript garage behind the offices of SMC Cartage Company at 2122 North Clark Street.

STEP 4

THE TRAP CLOSES

On 14 February at 10.30am, the North Side Gang gather at their garage HQ, expecting a shipment of Old Log Cabin Whiskey. McGurn's scouts think they spot Moran arriving – it's Albert Weinshank, wearing the same-coloured coat and hat as his boss.

STEP 5

THE AMBUSH

Four gunmen in a stolen police car – two of them wearing police uniforms – burst in. Believing this to be a routine raid, the six members of the North Side Gang and two of their associates surrender and allow the 'policemen' to remove their weapons.

STEP 6

THE LUCKY ESCAPE

Moran and Ted Newberry arrive late through a side street in time to see the police car pull up and wait it out in a café. Spotting another mobster, Henry Gusenberg, they warn him off, while a fourth survivor also arrives late. He notes down the car's license plate and skedaddles.

Murder weapon

Fitted with either a 20-round box or the iconic 50-round circular drum, the Thompson Submachine Gun could fire between 800 and 900 rounds a minute, allowing its wielder to spray his enemy with the entire magazine in a matter of seconds. Though retailing for $200 at a time when a car cost $400, it used ubiquitous .45 ammunition and could be easily broken down for transport and reassembled in under a minute. Effective at a range up to 45 metres (150 feet), the Tommy gun was perfect for close-range firefights across streets and the marble counter of the speakeasy. It quickly became a cultural symbol of gangsters in the 1920s, so much that when the police started recruiting their 'G-men', they made sure to equip them with Tommy guns of their own.

Victims

Four unfortunate victims of the massacre

John May

Not a member of the North Side Gang, May was a mechanic who worked on their cars and occasionally as muscle. May was trying to stay out of trouble, but the demands of seven children left him with no other option but to take work from the mob.

Peter Gusenberg and Frank Gusenberg

Hitmen for the North Side Gang, the Gusenberg brothers entered the criminal underworld in their teens. They took part in a drive-by shooting of Capone's HQ in 1926 and killed two of his allies in 1928.

Adam Heyer

Moran's business manager and North Side Gang accountant, Heyer owned the lease on the gang's headquarters. Described as a snappy dresser, Heyer had been in prison twice – once for robbery and once for running a confidence game.

Police investigation

The hunt for the killers

Frank Gusenberg lived on for hours despite being riddled with wounds, but sticking stubbornly to the mob's code of silence he refused to admit he'd even been shot, let alone who'd done it, before he died. The Chicago Police Department quickly announced that they believed Capone associates John Scalise, Alberto Anselmi, Jack McGurn and Frank Rio were responsible, but the case floundered due to lack of evidence and McGurn skipped town with his moll.

In frustration, the police began its retaliation efforts by shaking down Detroit's Purple Gang on the basis that Moran's mob had recently been hijacking their liquor shipments. On 22 February, the burnt remains of the police Cadillac were found, but it was impossible to pin it on either Capone or the Purple Gang, while the two murder weapons later turned up in a police raid on the Michigan home of bank robber and hitman Fred 'Killer' Burke in November that same year.

Burke, who led a vicious gang that Capone called his "American boys", was finally arrested in March 1931, attempting to rob a bank in Kirksville, Missouri, and died in prison in 1940 from diabetes. Having killed a Michigan police officer, the Chicago police were unable to extradite him to Illinois and his role in the St Valentine's Day Massacre went unexamined.

Meanwhile in a completely unrelated case, the FBI had finally pinned down the ruthless Barker-Karpis gang of bank robbers and kidnappers, when one of their members – Byron 'Monty' Bolton – confessed to the St Valentine's Day Massacre and implicated Burke. Having no jurisdiction over the case, the FBI suppressed the information but it finally leaked to the press, adding to the already considerable confusion and the mystery of the entire case.

STEP 7

THE MASSACRE

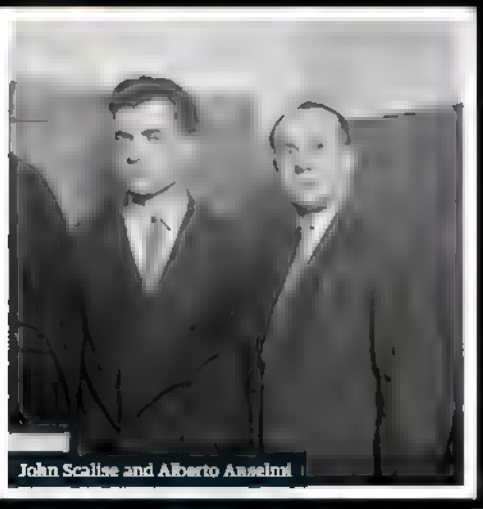
The two fake cops line the men up against a wall. Suddenly the two plain-clothes assassins open fire with Tommy guns while the others join in with a sawn-off shotgun and .45 handgun – spraying each man with at least ten bullets across their head and torso.

STEP 8

THE COVER-UP

The men in uniform lead the two plain-clothes assassins back to the police car with their hands raised, as if they'd been arrested. Neighbours, peering out of the windows, alerted by the rattle of gunfire, assume the villains have been apprehended.

Suspects Who might have pulled the trigger?



John Scalise and Alberto Anselmi

John Scalise and Alberto Anselmi

Capone's most feared hitmen, the Sicilian-born 'murder twins' were believed responsible for the death of North Side Gang boss – and Moran's predecessor – Dean O'Banion in 1924, as well as a failed attack on Moran and the murder of two police officers in June 1925. Both were sent to prison, but released a year later.

Frank Rio

One of Capone's most loyal and dependable bodyguards, Italian-born Rio had been arrested twice, once for handling stolen furs and once for the daylight robbery of a mail train but intimidation and bribery of judges helped him escape conviction, earning him the nickname 'Slippery' Frank Rio.

"His revolver levelled at Torrio's skull - the gun clicked on empty and the would-be assassins fled"

entered. Witnesses, who quickly forgot all the other details, recalled him say a friendly "Hello Al" before he was shot point blank – four rounds into his cheek and two into his shoulder. Nobody saw anything, nobody recognised the man, but the police knew who was responsible and so did the press, so for the first time, Capone's mugshot appeared on the front page.

In private, Capone's gang whispered that Howard had stuck up Jack 'Greasy Thumb' Guzik for $1,500, boasting he had "made the little Jew whine." Guzik was Capone's trusted money man, responsible for regular payoffs to cops and judges. Soon the name 'Scarface' began to stick, needling away at Capone's vanity – he never allowed the left side of his face to be photographed – and he began to lash out at the flickering flash bulbs of the photographers.

There were far more immediate threats than damning headlines, though. The predominantly Irish-American North Side Gang run by Dean O'Banion controlled the breweries and the bootlegging in Chicago's North Side and had resisted all of Torrio's efforts to bring them to heel. Alliances and truces had dwindled and fallen apart, but the last straw came on 19 May 1924 as O'Banion finally relinquished his share of the Sieben Brewery to Torrio. As soon as Torrio and his boys – joined by their allies in Little Sicily's 'Terrible Gennas' – showed up, a conveniently timed police raid swept in and the boss was left with a $5,000 fine and a nine-month jail sentence. "Deany was all right," smirked Capone, who took over the day-to-day running of the mob while Torrio served his sentence. "But like everyone else, his head got away from his hat."

One day while O'Banion clipped chrysanthemums in his flower shop, Schofields, Mike 'The Devil' Genna, John Scalise, Albert Anselmi and Frankie Yale strode in. As O'Banion and Yale shook hands, Scalise and Anselmi fired two bullets into his chest and two into his throat. As he lay on the floor in a pool of blood and petals, he was shot in the back of the head for good measure. He had been dealt with.

George Clarence 'Bugs' Moran took over the North Side Gang and nursed their grudge, moving the headquarters from Schofields to the garage that would become the site of the shocking St Valentine's Day Massacre in 1929, the culmination of a brutal and bloody five-year gang war between the Chicago Outfit and the North Side Gang.

Upon his release Torrio kept a low profile – safe in the knowledge that with Capone in the hot seat, he'd be less of a target. For all of the Fox's wiles, he just hadn't reckoned on how personal this war had become. Returning from a day shopping with his wife on the morning of 24 January 1925, gunfire lit up the street from a blue Cadillac lurking on the curb, shredding shopping bags to confetti. Blood mingled with the groceries from a litany of wounds as Johnny Torrio stared at the sky, the shrieking of Anna Torrio strangely distant. As Bugs Moran stood over him, blocking the crisp winter sun, his revolver levelled at Torrio's skull – the gun clicked on empty and the would-be assassins fled.

Capone's ascendancy was immediate as Torrio underwent emergency surgery. Capone slept by his mentor's bedside – the men of the Chicago Outfit standing guard around the clock, eying each disinterested nurse and flower-clutching day visitor suspiciously. "It's all yours, Al," said Torrio eventually. "Me? I'm quitting. It's Europe for me."

With the Fox quietly returning to Italy, Capone moved his headquarters into Chicago's luxurious Lexington Hotel, taking over the fourth and fifth floors where he held court

Victims of The St Valentine's Day Massacre

"Capone moved into his study where petitioners waited anxiously for favours and his patronage"

Five facts about Scarface

- Capone's specially-outfitted, bulletproof Cadillac was seized by the US Treasury Department in 1932. It was later used by the government as President Franklin Roosevelt's limousine.
- Even though he is synonymous with Chicago, he only lived in the city for 12 years of his life.
- Allegedly, he had never heard of Eliot Ness, the government agent sent to bring him to justice.
- The man who helped America swim in booze during Prohibition's favourite drink was Templeton Rye whisky.
- His men carried out most of the deaths he is responsible for, but Capone is still thought to have killed more than a dozen men personally.

like an emperor, surrounded by mobsters and prostitutes. A concrete vault was installed in the basement and a secret staircase hidden behind a mirror in one of his bathrooms, just one part of a web of tunnels that would allow him a quick escape. Rising late most days, he took his time pouring over the morning papers like a statesman, before dressing himself in expensive finely tailored suits. Early afternoon, Capone moved into his study in another suite where petitioners waited anxiously for favours and his patronage. Nobody talked about the "Free Kingdom of Torrio" anymore. No, now the press called Cicero the "Capital of Caponeland."

Capone began to court newspaper men, handing out expensive cigars and inviting them to lavish parties, where the lord of the Chicago underworld played billiards with boxers, baseball players and the notoriously corrupt mayor of Chicago, Big Bill Thompson, miraculously re-elected in 1927. "Public service is my motto," Capone explained to attentive reporters in December 1927. "99 per cent of the public in [Chicago] drink and gamble and my offense has been to furnish them with those amusements. My booze has been good and my games on the square."

Already the public had some sympathy for the bootleggers and Capone took hold of the notion and twisted it into the spectre of Robin Hood, portraying himself as heroic outlaw giving the people what they wanted.

The bigger Capone's business became, the more intricate and vulnerable the network of mobsters, bribes and alliances required to sustain it. It got to a point where the endemic corruption of Chicago's law and government simply couldn't be ignored. In the wake of the shocking St Valentine's Day Massacre, Herbert Hoover was elected US president on an anti-corruption platform. His first move was to dispatch Prohibition agent Eliot Ness and a handpicked team of incorruptible 'Untouchables' to clean up Chicago's streets by raiding Capone's speakeasies and stills, and more importantly, it transpired, a team of IRS agents headed by accountant-turned-lawman Frank J Wilson with a mandate to turn over Capone's finances for something that would stick in court.

"Every time a boy falls off a tricycle, every time a black cat has gray kittens, every time someone stubs a toe, every time there's a murder or a fire or the Marines land in Nicaragua, the police and the

Capone with family and friends at a picnic, Chicago, 1929

Capone and Alcatraz

What was he sentenced for?

What was his defence?

What happened at the trial?

How was life for him in jail?

Was Alcatraz 'hard' prison?

Why was he released?

Alcatraz was a federal

newspapers holler, 'Get Capone!'" raged Chicago's premier gangster in his penthouse, "I'm sick of it."

As the gangster was having a tantrum, one of the men tasked with bringing him to justice was having second thoughts. "Doubts raced through my mind as I considered the feasibility of enforcing a law which the majority of honest citizens didn't seem to want," Ness admitted in his autobiography. "I felt a chill foreboding for my men as I envisioned the violent reaction we would produce in the criminal octopus hovering over Chicago, its tentacles of terror reaching out all over the nation. We had undertaken what might be a suicidal mission."

While Capone wallowed in fine silks and syphilitic megalomania in his penthouse, Ness and his Untouchables began nipping at his heels – shutting down 18 stills and arresting 52 bootleggers in a single night. In the first six months alone, Ness' daring raids had cost the Chicago Outfit an estimated $1,000,000, as well as some of loyal lieutenants, who now languished in jail for violations of the Volstead Act. He shrugged off Capone's clumsy attempts at bribery, as well as two assassination attempts.

It was only ever an irritant, taking chunks out of his income and his pride – but to a mobster as egotistical as Capone, such defiance drove him into a rage. It was a fury Ness gleefully exploited – parading captured vehicles outside his hotel and taunting him on the phone. However much Ness might have damaged his ego, the real danger to the man who made the streets of Chicago swim in booze and blood came from fraud investigator Frank J Wilson as he poured over reams of paperwork.

In May 1927, the US Supreme Court's 'Sullivan decision' had reversed a bizarre legal loophole that meant gangsters were legally exempt from having to register illegal income on their tax returns, on the basis that it would violate their Fifth Amendment rights. Manly Sullivan, a Chicago bootlegger whose trial lent the decision its name, received a landmark conviction for tax evasion.

That same year, the Chicago Outfit's income was an estimated $108 million. Capone simply had to be next. Facing a possible 34-year jail term from Wilson's tax case and Ness's Prohibition case, the former would stick and the latter wouldn't, but that scarcely mattered. It was the end of Capone's empire of crime, brought down not by gunfire, violence and police raids, but by the simple, dry truth of the balance sheet. The reign of Chicago's public enemy number one was over.

GANDHI'S PEACEFUL FIGHT FOR JUSTICE

Standing off against armed soldiers and the might of the British Empire, Mahatma Gandhi led a nation to freedom without raising a fist in violence

Written by Frances White

The Sun streams down on a balmy spring day as thousands of Sikhs, Muslims and Hindus gather in the garden of the golden temple on the festival of Baisakhi. In the blink of an eye the peaceful gathering transforms into chaos. General Dyer, a British Indian Army officer, has entered with 90 soldiers clutching rifles. With one word they aim their guns at the unarmed civilians and fire. Madness and panic tears through the crowded garden as the defenceless citizens run for their lives and many stumble and are trampled to death.

Some of the families fight their way to the narrow gates only to find them locked. Desperate men and women looking for safety fling themselves into the dark depths of a single well, but the drop is treacherous and later 120 lifeless bodies are removed. After ten minutes of continuous shooting, a dull silence finally falls. The wounded are left lying where they fall as people watch helplessly from afar, terrified of suffering a similar fate. This attack was aimed to not disperse, but to punish. The British put the death toll at 379, but Indian officials estimated the true figure was in excess of 1,500.

> "Gandhi waged his fight not on the battlefield but in the spirits and minds of the people"

The Amritsar Massacre of 1919 would become a cornerstone in the Indian fight for Independence from British rule. After violent protests by the Indian Independence Movement the British government were tense and, fearing a conspiracy to overthrow them, invoked martial law, making it illegal for more than four people to assemble. Upon facing the mass crowd of unarmed men, women and children, Dyer reports that he was "confronted by a revolutionary army". The massacre was horrendous but did achieve something years of negotiations could not, it united three groups - Hindu extremists, pan-Islamists and Sikh revolutionaries - toward a single goal: freedom. The inflamed people still lacked something fundamental, though - a leader.

Mohandas Gandhi, who had previously encouraged Indian troops to join the British fight in the First World War, felt his trust and faith crushed in an instant. He compared the British government to "the fabled snake with a brilliant jewel on its head, but which has fangs full of poison" and felt a great force within him to rid the world of this venom. He concluded that independence for India was the only option.

MOHANDAS KARAMCHAND GANDHI

Indian, 1869-1948

Brief Bio

Gandhi was raised in a Hindu merchant caste in western India. He studied law in England and spent time in South Africa fighting for civil rights before he returned to India in 1915 and dedicated his life to achieving self-rule. He is now regarded as the 'father of the nation' and his birthday is celebrated as the International Day of Nonviolence.

and with that decision he became the vessel for freedom for an impoverished and starving nation.

Dedicated to pacifism, Gandhi waged his fight not on the battlefield but in the spirits and minds of the people. He aimed to conquer the British not with military power, but spiritual force. The Indians were hungry for revenge, but Gandhi encouraged the masses to rid themselves of violence and disunity in order to bring about a similar change in the hearts of the British government.

Gandhi entered into the Indian Congress in 1920 as a nationalist, but he offered an alternative to the random violence of the masses and the resolutions and petitions of the law-abiding Congress. With his tours around the country and eloquent articles, this small, mild-mannered and yet, in his own way, powerful man had entranced the imagination of the people. This was exactly what the mass movement Congress wanted to achieve and Gandhi was made the figurehead of the non-cooperation movement.

Building on his strong faith and morality, Gandhi said, "If we trust and fear God we shall have to fear no one, not Maharajas, not Viceroys, not the detectives or even King George." As rumours spread through the British government of this unpredictable man who would say and do anything, Gandhi finally stated his position outright to Lord Reading, the viceroy of India, in *Young India* on 15 December 1921. "Lord Reading must understand that non-cooperators are at war with the government. They have declared rebellion against it." The demands had been laid down, and Gandhi and his

Gandhi's attempts to establish a law practice in Bombay were hindered by his shyness

"Once again, the Mahatma had assembled the pieces of a broken India"

SERVING HARD TIME

Gandhi viewed his time in prison as a vital part of all his movements, writing: "Freedom is to be wooed only inside prison walls and sometimes on gallows." He saw the sacrifice of pleading guilty and spending time behind bars as a step in connecting himself to his thousands of followers. He submitted peacefully to his arrests, believing the government would be converted by his quiet determination in suffering for a just cause. He spent six years and ten months in jail throughout his life, first entering aged 39 and leaving for the last time at 75 years old. Here is a selection of his time behind bars in Yervada Central Jail.

10 MARCH 1922 - 5 FEBRUARY 1924

A mass protest in the market town of Chauri Chaura turned violent, during which protestors burned down the police station and killed 22 people. Gandhi was horrified by the violence but was arrested and convicted of sedition.

5 MAY 1930 - 26 JANUARY 1931

A new campaign of civil disobedience was launched and Gandhi protested the salt tax with his Salt March. He encouraged the population to illegally make salt by boiling seawater, for which he was promptly thrown in prison with his fellow protestors.

4 JANUARY 1932 - 23 AUGUST 1933

After attending the Round Table Conference in London, Gandhi was imprisoned again. Gandhi was released but was later arrested yet again following a new civil disobedience campaign, in this instance to boycott liquor and foreign cloth.

9 AUGUST 1942 - 6 MAY 1944

The Congress Party passed its 'Quit India' movement which encouraged civil disobedience, prompting mass walkouts by workers all over India. As a result the entire Congress Working Committee, including Gandhi himself, was arrested.

THE SALT MARCH

Sabarmati Ashram
12 March 1930
Gandhi sets out from his religious retreat at Abermanti accompanied by 78 marchers between the ages of 20 to 30. The march is a peaceful protest, opposing the British government's monopoly on salt.

Nadiad
16 March 1930
20,000 people gather at the temple in the small city of Nadiad Gandhi's secretary reports that the room is full to bursting point.

Aslali
12 March 1930
Already struggling with rheumatism, the first day of Gandhi's march ends 21km (13mi) from the starting point. Gandhi speaks to a large crowd and tells them that the salt tax is inhuman and is financially crippling the country.

Matar
14 March 1930
Two more men join Gandhi's marchers; one of these is Nepali Kharag Bahadur Singh, a convicted murderer reformed to nonviolence in prison. Objections arise to his presence, but Gandhi preaches the importance of forgiveness in a nonviolent society and he is allowed to remain.

Thousands followed Gandhi from Ahmadabad to protest the salt taxes

The Salt March included all elements of the Indian caste system

Gajera
21 March 1930
Ghandi refuses to speak to a crowd of thousands until the ostracised untouchables are invited to sit with the rest of the audience. The untouchables are finally included and Gandhi calls this action the first step toward true freedom

Bhatgam
30 March 1930
Gandhi grows angry with his followers when he discovers they have ordered a car to bring milk from a nearby city, imploring them "We are marching in the name of God [...] Do not ride if you can walk, this is not a battle to be conducted with money"

Dandi
5 April 1930
Gandhi and his followers finally reach the coast. Gandhi picks up a lump of salt and boils it in seawater, an action deemed illegal by the British government. His followers repeat his actions throughout India and mass arrests of over 60,000 people occur by the end of the month.

growing band of followers were ready to unleash their own brand of resistance.

Clothing himself in the dress of the common man, Gandhi connected with all rungs of society. He became the Mahatma (great soul) and crowds swarmed to catch a glimpse of him. Travelling the county, Gandhi encouraged the people to rid themselves of British control by boycotting British products, adopting the use of local handicrafts and embracing the true essence of their homeland.

With its charismatic figurehead, the movement soon gathered momentum and when his fellow activists were arrested, Gandhi signed a manifesto that called on every soldier and civilian to abandon their posts and find another means of livelihood. To the shock of the British, thousands of people all over India followed the words of the Mahatma. However, as the movement gained momentum it took on a life of its own and Gandhi struggled to keep a firm grip on it. On 17 November 1921 violent riots erupted and Europeans were assaulted on the streets. Dismayed at the descent of his movement into that which he loathed most of all, violence,

AN ENGLISH GENTLEMAN?

At the age of 18, Gandhi travelled to London to study to become a barrister. Immediately sticking out against his distinctively English friends, he decided to immerse himself in the lifestyle of an English gentleman. Although he refused to give up his vegetarianism, Gandhi spent three months attempting to fit into polite British society, clothing himself in suitably English clothes – a chimney-pot hat, expensive pocket watch and an evening suit from Bond Street. Determined to sound as well as look the part, he fine-tuned his accent with elocution lessons and even took French lessons. This pursuit was short-lived as he quickly became disillusioned at the expensive endeavours and settled into the simple life of a student, focusing firmly on his studies.

Gandhi used his body as a means of protest and fasted to quell the fire.

The violence confirmed British fears that the country was at boiling point and over one month 30,000 people were imprisoned. Harsh laws that prohibited volunteer organisations, meetings and processions were forcibly imposed. Fearing the revolution would be muffled, Congress appointed Gandhi as the sole executive authority, pressing the need for immediate action. He did not disappoint.

With the needs of the masses bearing down upon him, Gandhi called for mass civil disobedience which he outlined as, "a sort of general upheaval on the political plane – the government ceases to function [...] the police stations, the courts, the offices etc all cease to be government property and shall be taken charge of by the people." Gandhi encouraged a mass defiance of all laws to create the state of India, whether the British wanted it or not.

The movement came to a crashing halt before it could even begin though. In Chauri Chaura constables opened fire on a peaceful procession of protestors, expended their ammo and then barricaded themselves in the police station. Driven to frustration and desperation, the marchers set fire to the building. As the terrified policemen fled from the flames the protestors leapt on them, hacking 22 of them to pieces.

Horrified by this barbaric action under the guise of his peaceful movement, Gandhi revoked his plans for civil disobedience, fearing his nonviolent message had dissolved into total and utter chaos. Despite his immediate condemnation of the violence, on 10 March Gandhi was arrested. Polite, abiding and eloquent, he immediately pleaded guilty and asked the judge to enforce the highest penalty upon him, or else resign. Taken aback by the humility of this remarkable man, the judge commented that Gandhi was unlike anyone he had ever tried or was likely to try again before sentencing him to six years' imprisonment.

When Gandhi emerged from prison on 5 February 1924 it was to a very different India. Without his leadership the national unity had collapsed. He was accused of awaking the masses prematurely, to which he responded "I would do nothing to put them asleep again." In response to the disunity and violence the country had been swept up in, Gandhi conducted a twenty one day fast. This seemed to work, and opposing groups met at a 'Unity Conference.' Once again, he had assembled the pieces of a broken India.

"To the shock of the British, thousands of people all over India followed the words of the Mahatma"

Gandhi leaves his office in Knightsbridge with the Indian author Sarojini Naidu, 1931

INDIA'S ROAD TO FREEDOM

1857

The rebellion begins
The landed militia of Oudh [illegible] the Pakistan [illegible] armed rebellion against the ruling British East India Company. The rebellion spreads across the state but is brutally ended by the British forces. Although British rule is [illegible] and reinstated. 1857

Civil revolt
Anger grows among the Indian soldiers due to the frequent racial and religious discrimination suffered at the hands of British soldiers. Revolts break out and civil rebellion follows. The revolting is crushed and the British government passes the Government of India Act to increase their control. 1857

Political unrest
The Indian National Congress is formed, initially serving as a debating society. By 1900 the Congress has become an all India political organisation. An offshoot radical group pushes for revolution against the British but the leaders are arrested and the offensive is called. 1884

Divide and rule
Viceroy Lord Curzon orders the partition of Bengal. Many Indians view this as an attempt to disturb the nationalist movement and an example of the British policy of 'divide and rule'. Bengalis storm the streets in anger. 1905

Lucknow Pact
After millions of Indian soldiers serve in WWI, the Congress and nationalist movements unite and demand reward for their sacrifices. The Lucknow Pact is formed between the two, a formal agreement to pressure Britain to give Indians more power in their own country. 1916

Gandhi may have been a unifying force but even he couldn't deny the fractures that ran through the country he loved, and for the next three years he moved away from politics, focusing on rebuilding the nation from scratch. In 1928, inspired by a successful large-scale nonviolent resistance by the peasants of Bardoli, Gandhi returned to the spotlight. Civil disobedience was embraced again and on 26 January 1930, Gandhi made his demands clear by publishing the Declaration of Independence of India.

Using himself as a vessel for change, Gandhi announced he would lead the movement by protesting the salt tax that hit the poorest in the land by prohibiting them to produce their own salt. Frail and suffering with rheumatism, the 61-year-old and a growing band of marchers walked the

GANDHI BY THE NUMBERS

Nobel Peace Prize nominations

6 **Years in prison**

14 **arrests**

89 **Years of British rule in India**

80,000 **Kilometres walked during his campaigns from 1913 to 1938**

250,000 **People who attended his funeral**

THREE STAGES OF THE FIGHT FOR INDEPENDENCE

1. Non-cooperation 1920-1922

The non-cooperation movement was in resistance to the British occupation of India through nonviolent means. Gandhi encouraged the boycotting of British goods, as well as walkouts by public service and factory workers. Despite his wishes, the protests soon turned violent and Gandhi fasted in an effort to quell the violence

2. Civil disobedience 1930-1931

Led by Gandhi's beliefs of nonviolent resistance, the civil disobedience movement aimed to free India of British control by actively breaking laws. Known best for the Dandi Salt March where Gandhi encouraged the masses to break the Salt Laws, civil disobedience soon spread across India with widespread lawbreaking and refusal to pay taxes

3. Quit India movement 1942-1944

After a speech calling for immediate Indian independence, Gandhi and almost the entire Indian Congress were arrested and placed in jail. Although the British were able to quell the small-scale violence that occurred, the Quit India Movement united the Indian people against British rule and cemented the demand for Indian independence.

Gandhi arrives Initially in support of unified territory between Britain and India, Gandhi's strategy of nonviolent disobedience attracts millions. After the Amritsar Massacre, where British soldiers gun down unarmed protesters, the country is galvanised by the quest for independence. 1914

Government of India The British government introduce the Government of India Act 1919 to assuage British officials and Indian legislators share power in some areas. A number of areas are transferred completely to Indian control such as health. 23 December 1919

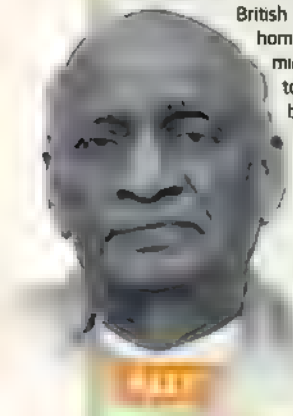
Independence day At an all-party conference in Bombay, a constitution for India is written which demands the British government give complete independence to India. A country-wide civil disobedience would be launched. 1928

Civil disobedience Violent clashes occur throughout the country for years the Indians fight for freedom and the Government of India Act of 1935 allows to achieve provincial autonomy. 1930

Quit India movement Under Gandhi's influence, the Quit India Movement is launched. Teachers and workers walk out on their jobs in order to hold the British war effort hostage. When leading political figures are arrested the protests turn violent. 1942

Independence declared The partition of British India into India and Pakistan is announced. On 15 August the India Independence Act passes Parliament and the next day India is independent. 1947

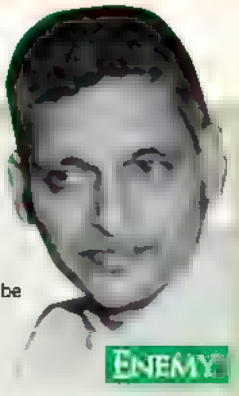
ENEMIES AND ALLIES



Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

One of the founding fathers of the Republic of India, Patel helped lead the country into becoming an independent nation. Patel organised nonviolent civil disobedience against oppressive British policies. He became the first home minister and deputy prime minister of India and is known today as the 'iron man of India' because of his fierce views and uncompromising stance. A monument, the 'Statue of Unity' is currently under planning to commemorate his contribution to India.

Influence on Gandhi:
Gandhi wrote of Patel, his loyal supporter: "Without the help of Vallabhbhai Patel, we should not have won the campaign."

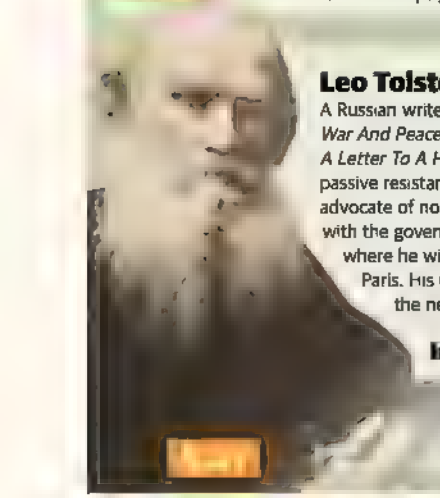


Nathuram Godse

A Hindu nationalist, Godse was opposed to Gandhi's policies, which he considered to be pro-Muslim. An activist and member of many Hindu nationalist groups, Godse believed that under Gandhi's leadership India would be enslaved to Muslim beliefs and Hindus would suffer. He also blamed Gandhi for hundreds of thousands of deaths that occurred as a result of the partition of India.

ENEMY

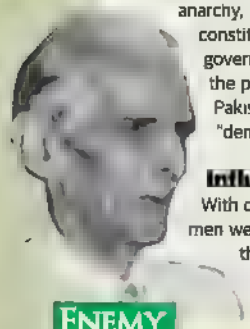
Influence on Gandhi:
On 30 January 1948 Godse shot Gandhi in the chest three times from point-blank range, ending his life and fight for justice.



Leo Tolstoy

A Russian writer and philosopher best known for writing *War And Peace* and *Anna Karenina*, Tolstoy also wrote *A Letter To A Hindu*, which preached the idea of using passive resistance to overthrow colonial rule in India. An advocate of nonviolence, Tolstoy became disillusioned with the government after his experiences in the army where he witnessed a horrific public execution in Paris. His Christian beliefs were centred on loving the neighbour, rather than serving the church.

Influence on Gandhi:
Gandhi classed himself as Tolstoy's 'disciple', writing to him frequently and translating his works to his native Gujarati.



Muhammed Ali Jinnah

The founder of Pakistan, Jinnah served as Pakistan's first governor-general and his birthday is celebrated as a national holiday. Jinnah was opposed to Gandhi's campaign of nonviolent resistance, claiming it to be political anarchy, instead promoting the use of constitutional means to achieve self-government. Many in India oppose the popular view of Jinnah held in Pakistan, viewing him to be the "demon who divided the land."

ENEMY

Influence on Gandhi:
With opposing characters, the two men were constantly butting heads in the political world, but despite that they shared a personal admiration for each other.

"Gandhi was arrested, but his journey emblazed the hearts of the people"

388 kilometres (241 miles) from Abermanti to Dandi. The marchers included an array of people, from the ostracised untouchables, the lowest castes of society to decorated scholars. Many struggled to keep pace with their elderly but determined leader. Upon finally reaching Dandi, millions watched as Gandhi knelt to the ground, raised a lump of salty mud to the sky and declared, "With this, I am shaking the foundations of the British Empire."

Gandhi was arrested, but his journey emblazed the hearts of the people and his arrest only served to further stimulate the masses. Less than a year later the government, under heavy pressure released all civil-disobedience prisoners under the agreement that the movement was called off. But as the movement rose from the flames, Gandhi and almost the entire Congress were jailed once more. The British government acted swiftly and viciously to stop the ongoing rebellion at the source, but the people's spirits could not be dampened so easily.

When Gandhi returned to politics in 1939, it was with complete focus on independence. The outbreak of war provided the ideal environment to finally achieve his goal. Outraged by India's inclusion in the Second World War without any consultation, all congressmen resigned from office. Gandhi proclaimed the hypocrisy of India fighting in a war to achieve democratic freedom when Indians themselves did not enjoy such luxury.

Escalating his demand for freedom, Ghandi launched the Quit India movement, encouraging passive resistance to withhold the much-needed Indian support in Britain's hour of need. Gandhi urged Indians to 'do or die' to achieve the Freedom they had long fought for. The British reaction was instantaneous; the entire Congress Working Committee was arrested. Riots tore across the country as the fury of the people was unleashed upon any symbol of British rule – burning post offices, police stations and courts.

After fasts in prison and struck down with ill health, Gandhi was released. Bent but not broken, he returned as the head of the non-cooperation movement in 1944. Fearing a revolution, the British finally hammered out the agreement for independence in March 1947 and on 15 August that same year it became official.

The long-awaited independence can be attributed to many factors, but no one man captured the hearts and minds of the Indian people like Mahatma Gandhi. The freedom the masses needed had been achieved long before independence was declared. Gandhi, with his inspiring words, actions and sacrifices had freed the people not only from British rule, but also from the prisons in which their minds had been enslaved.

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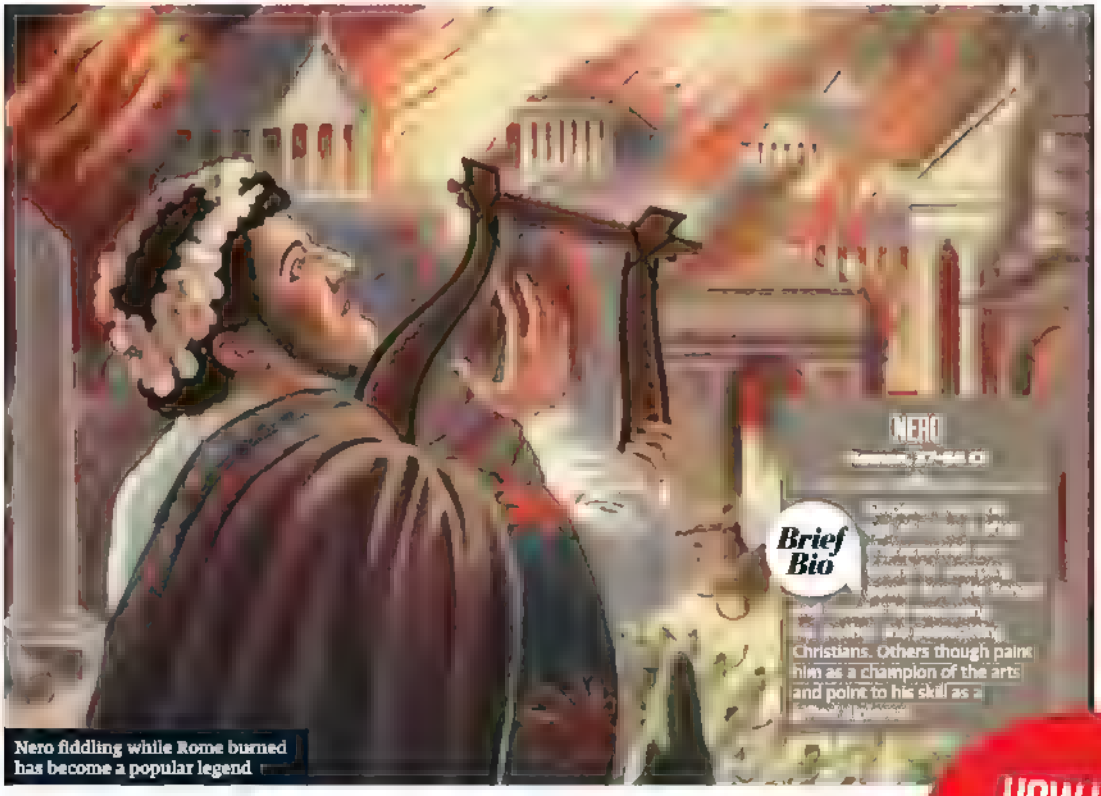

Nero fiddling while Rome burned has become a popular legend

Did Emperor Nero really fiddle while Rome burned?

Dan Rothman, Nottingham

We know Nero didn't play the fiddle during the great fire of 64 CE because the fiddle didn't exist until the ninth century. The legend of Nero climbing the city walls to commemorate the city's loss with music has evolved over time along with the instrument. Roman historian Tacitus wrote, rather sceptically, that some said Nero sang of the fall of Troy while Rome burned, but added it wasn't confirmed by eyewitnesses. In 225, historian Dio Cassius added that Nero was dressed in "cithara player's garb." Shakespeare referred to Nero playing the lute in *Henry V, Part 1* in 1591, but a play called *The Tragedy Of Nero* by an anonymous author in 1624 cemented the myth with the line: "Let Nero fiddle out Rome's obsequies." When the blaze began, Nero was in his villa at Antium, 56 kilometres (35 miles) from Rome. Though he immediately returned and began relief measures, they were not effective and Rome burned for six days.

What are the Dead Sea Scrolls?

Peter Hayman, London

They are a collection of over 900 texts that contain the oldest surviving manuscripts of the Hebrew Bible. The Scrolls were discovered by a group of Bedouin shepherds looking for a missing goat in 1947. While searching the Dead Sea's northwest shore, they found a cave containing a series of papyrus scrolls stored in earthen jars. The scrolls' importance wasn't realised at first and when the Bedouins tried to sell them to an antiques dealer in Bethlehem he dismissed them as worthless. The Bedouins had better luck in Jerusalem, where a cobbler and part-time antiquarian bought them and sold them to local scholars.

Studies of the scrolls soon attracted attention, but it wasn't until 1949 that experts found the cave the Bedouins stumbled on. A team led by a French-Dominican priest named Roland De Vaux discovered the remains of pottery, cloth and wood as well as additional manuscript fragments confirming the scrolls were authentic. Ten other caves were found in the hills around Qumran in a frantic race between Bedouin treasure hunters and the archaeologists. These caves contained about 800 manuscripts dating from approximately 200 BCE to 68 CE.

The Dead Sea Scrolls were written in Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic

HOW LONG DID BRITAIN RULE HONG KONG?
156 years – from 1841 to 1997

This day in history

26 June. All About History 14 goes on sale, but what else

363 – Julian the Apostate killed
Emperor Julian is killed retreating from the Persians. Julian unsuccessfully tried to revive Hellenism as the state religion of Rome after Constantine's previous conversion to Christianity.

1284 – Pied Piper of Hamelin
According to German folklore, this is the date the piper lured away the children of Hamelin, West Saxony, with a magical song after the town mayor refused to pay him for his rat-catching services.

1848 – June Days Uprising end
The National Guard quells an insurgency led by workers in Paris who are angry at their low wages. The uprising lasts three days and does not end peacefully – over 10,000 people are either killed or injured by the end of the uprising.

1906 – First Grand Prix
The motor race is held for the first time outside Le Mans, France, on closed public roads. The winner is Hungarian driver Ferenc Szisz, racing for the Renault team. The race lasts 12 hours spread over two days

When was basketball invented?

Tim Hill, New York

Though basketball today is a multi-billion-dollar industry played by superstars, it was invented in 1891 as a way for a teacher to keep his gym class active on a rainy day. Doctor James Naismith, a Canadian physical education professor at a Massachusetts YMCA, rejected other sports as unsuitable for the confines of a gymnasium, so improvised his own game. He nailed a peach basket three metres (ten feet) off the ground and players used a football (the soccer kind, not the American pigskin) to shoot hoops. However, the rules were not quite the same as they are now. In particular, Naismith did not cut the bottoms off of the baskets, so players had to climb up and fetch balls after scoring until metal hoops were introduced in 1906. Though it's against the rules to move without bouncing the ball now, dribbling wasn't introduced until the 1950s when the manufacturing of balls improved.

Some early players wanted to call basketball 'Naismith's Game' after the founder, but Naismith insisted on the name we use today

Were the Three Musketeers based on real people?

Barry Peters, Wellington

The Three Musketeers are most widely known from the novel of the same name by Alexandre Dumas. Dumas received his inspiration for the story from a 17th century work called *Mémoires de Monsieur d'Artagnan*, a fiction written by Gatien de Courtilz de Sandras. The hero of the story – D'Artagnan – was really Charles de Batz-Castelmore, who served under Louis XIV as captain of the Musketeers of the Guard. The Three Musketeers themselves – Athos, Porthos and Aramis – are also based on real people; Armand D'Athos, Issac de Porthau and Henri d'Aramitz respectively. All three served as Musketeers in the 17th century, but Dumas' works bear little resemblance to the real historical figures.

The Three Musketeers have been portrayed in books, film and television

What was a 'quagga'?

Natalie Lewis, Manchester

An extinct cousin of the zebra that lived in South Africa, the quagga was hunted to extinction in the 19th century by Europeans on safari as well as Afrikaner colonials who considered them a pest, vying for grazing land for their cattle. Quagga meat was also edible and their hides were sold for leather. The last quagga died in the wild in 1878, but specimens lived on in captivity until 1883, when a mare died at Natura Artis Magistra Zoo in Amsterdam. A breeding programme has produced a quagga-like foal named Henry in 2005, but the resemblance is only external, so we'll probably never see a real quagga again.

YOUR TWEETS

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Loved the read on Shaka, King of the Zulus. Have more knowledge on the Zulu now than just Michael Caine's 'Alamo' version! **@dannyretro**

Seriously, **@AboutHistoryMag** is the only magazine I read religiously. I still have all of the issues I've collected because it's just so good! **@andrezani_major**

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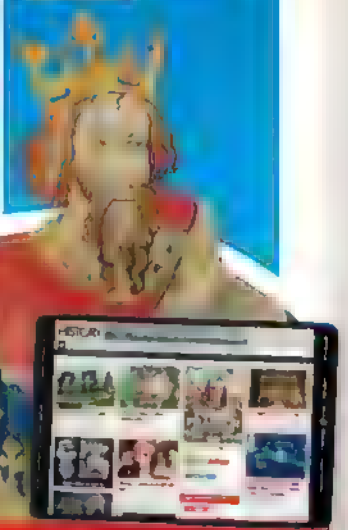
I picked up a copy of **@AboutHistoryMag** yesterday really enjoying it! Enjoyable accessible and not patronising. **@Martinwb10**



Did King Arthur exist? Find out at..
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happened on this day in history

1945 – United Nations formed
The United Nations Charter is signed in San Francisco by 50 of the 51 original members states. It will still have to be ratified in October, but is a major step toward realising the international organisation.

1963 – "Ich bin ein Berliner"
President John F Kennedy delivers his famous speech to a packed crowd in Berlin, underlining USA's support of West Germany shortly after the Soviets erect the Berlin Wall.

2000 – Blueprint of DNA revealed
Scientists for the Human Genome Project announce they have completed a 'first draft' of the entire map of human DNA. To mark the milestone, President Clinton dedicates his State of Union address to discussing it.

2013 – Defense of Marriage act defeated
In a major victory for the LGBT movement, the US Supreme Court rules that Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act, which allows states to refuse to recognise same-sex marriages, is unconstitutional and should not be allowed

REVIEW ROUNDUP: WWI

We assemble the most engaging books and films on the Great War for your reading and viewing pleasure

BOOKS

SABOTAGE

Top Secret: British Boffins In Wold War One

Author: Dave Rogers

Publisher: Helion

Using previously unpublished material from the Royal Society Archives, this book looks at the formation of a WWI war committee. Membership to the Royal Society was only available to those at the top of their fields in subject such as engineering, chemistry and medicine and they played a key role in the development of new technology used in the Great War.

If you like this, try...

Spies Of The First World War

Bill Price This Kindle-only book is priced at £0.99 – it is brief and doesn't take long to read but provides a quick overview of some of the conflict's famous spies.

POISON GAS

How Chemistry Changed WWI

Author: Michael Freemantle

Publisher: The History Press

When German forces used chemical warfare on a large scale in 1915 for the first time they were denounced as going too far, as stepping over the line. Even among the horror of WWI poison gas was seen as a dirty weapon. Freemantle examines the use of poison gas in the conflict but also how chemicals such as chlorine were used to heal the wounded.

If you like this, try...

A Higher Form Of Killing

Robert Harris and Jeremy Paxman This well-written book looks at the development of chemical warfare, its use in WWI and its modern day place in the world of weaponry.

EVERYDAY LIFE

Soldier Slang Of World War I

Author: Emily Brewer

Publisher: Amberley

This book may be quite throwaway but does shine a light on the conflict. By looking at the slang used by British, American and German soldiers, the humour and the living conditions of these troops are brought to life through small details, such as that the sheepskin jacket used as part of the British uniform was known as the 'Louse trap.'

If you like this, try...

Fighting On The Home Front

Kate Adie Adie's book shows how women in Britain during WWI became a visible force in public life taking up essential roles in policing, munitions, entertainment and politics.

OVERVIEW

There are a host of different books outlining the Great War but one of the most visually interesting is the Imperial War Museum's *Mapping The First World War* by Peter Chasseaud. This features small and large-scale battle maps as well as trench maps, but arguably the most interesting are the maps that were produced at the time in newspapers and propaganda. A visual feast for the eyes and a different way of looking at the first time industrial warfare was unleashed on a worldwide scale

WAR HORSE

Year: 2011

Directed by: Steven Spielberg

Based on the novel by Michael Morpurgo, Spielberg's Hollywood adaptation tells the story of Albert, a young farmer's son who develops a strong bond with a horse. The horse is sold to a British officer en route to WWI and Albert also travels to France to fight in a conflict where, at the start, it was still believed horse cavalry could be effective against industrial weapons such as machine guns.

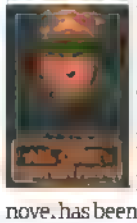
TELEVISION AND FILMS

IN LOVE AND WAR

Year: 1997
Directed by: Richard Attenborough

One of USA's finest writers, Ernest Hemingway, went to Italy in 1918 to become an ambulance driver where he experienced the war first-hand. This film focuses on the young Hemingway and while the romance aspect is a touch trite, the film provides an insight into how the war shaped him.

ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT



Year: 1930
Directed by: Lewis Milestone

This adaptation from Erich Maria Remarque's novel has been hailed as one of the most powerful anti-war statements of all time. It shows how a soldier's initial enthusiasm is shattered in the brutal fighting and brings home the horror of the conflict.

THE LOST BATTALION

Year: 2001
Directed by: Russell Mulcahy

This ambitious TV movie tells the story of a US battalion that becomes stranded in the Argonne Forest in France and have to fight off enemy forces for five days without relief. The battle scenes are gory but well handled and the Germans shown as three-dimensional characters, which really helps the overall feel of the film.

EDITOR'S PICK

If the *World At War* is the definitive programme about WWII then *The First World War - The Complete Series* is the must-have guide to the first true industrial war. Arranged into ten parts, it features footage from the time alongside contemporary shots and offers an insightful and thoughtful look at the numerous events leading to the war and then the conflict itself. It is a comprehensive piece of work and looks at some areas of the Great War other documentaries tend to gloss over, such as the role of the Ottoman Turks, the conflict in the Middle East and the important role of British Commonwealth soldiers from across the Empire, halfway around the globe. Recommended for those looking to scratch beneath the conflict and to get a world view of it, rather than just a European or American perspective.

"Poison gas was seen as a dirty weapon"

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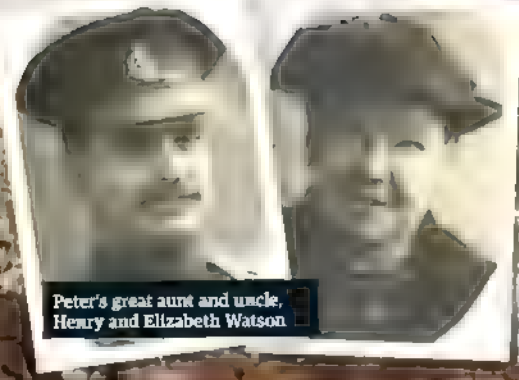
ALL ABOUT YOUR HISTORY

Share your past with us

A Victorian-era fire brigade in London



Peter's great aunt and uncle, Henry and Elizabeth Watson

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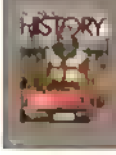

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A chance to boast about famous or significant ancestors

Terrible fire at Moor Lane

Peter Mitchell, Weston-super-Mare

This is the story of my great aunt Elizabeth Watson, which all began and ended one summer evening on 23 July 1912. Nine young women died as a result of a fire at a Christmas-card factory in central London. The youngest girl to die was 14 years old and the oldest 25. A naked flame igniting a highly flammable celluloid material caused the fire, which was in Moor Lane. This substance was an elastic plastic-type compound, but the building was totally unsuitable to contain some 730 kilograms (1,600 pounds) of this German-made material.

The company management, it seems, knew of this danger. Sadly, there were no proper fire extinguishers, no fire training had been given to the staff and only a single bucket of water was suitably placed for use in the event of a fire. This fire bucket was in such a handy position that the young men who worked nearby washed their hands and faces using the water from the bucket.

Angus Thomas Ltd was a Christmas card publisher who rented out the top floor of the building. In the front room, the windows of which overlooked the main street, Moor Lane, 14 girls and four men were employed. In the back room there were a further 15 girls at work. They were all engaged in making coloured hand-made Christmas cards in which celluloid and other flammable materials were used. It was at 6.20pm, shortly before the employees were due to stop work for the day, when the fire started.

It was among the girls in the back room that the casualties occurred. To reach the stairway they had to pass through the front room, which was by now a mass of flames. A few burst through and got to the staircase, with their hair and clothes alight. Some of the others were so panic-stricken they appear to have made no attempt to escape.

Doctor James Kearney, city division police surgeon who had seen the bodies of six of the girls, expressed the opinion that they had died from carbon monoxide poisoning. But although suffocation was the cause of death, some of the

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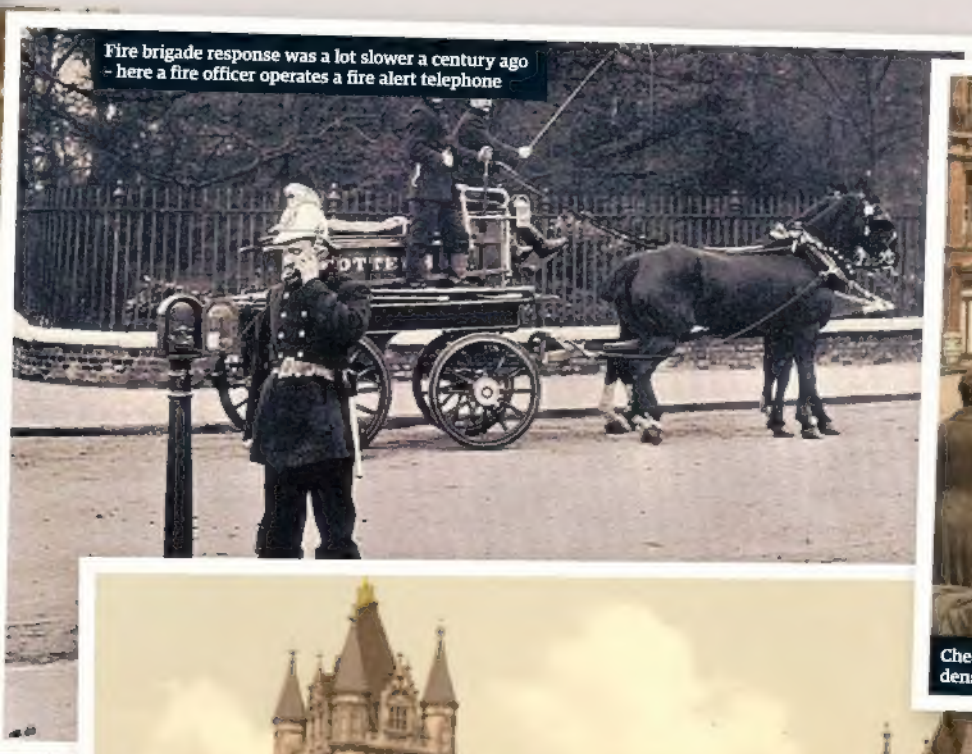
Fire brigade response was a lot slower a century ago – here a fire officer operates a fire alert telephone

Cheapside in London was incredibly densely built and laden with fire hazards

London's Tower Bridge is not far from Moor Lane

bodies were burned beyond all recognition. The *Daily Graphic* newspaper reported on 25 July 1912 that at the Golden Lane Mortuary some bodies were so charred and burned that they were unrecognisable and in one case the only possible means of identification was a small piece of embroidered underclothing.

Mr Marshall, the manager of Angus Thomas Ltd, told the coroner that after he had received a warning of the fire he informed the firm working on the floor below. He said: "They cleared out as soon as they could." Then he explained that he had said to his son: "Now Willie, It's you and me, we must go upstairs." Together, they made their way upstairs, which he knew was the likeliest place to find the girls. He supposed they were on the roof, in a place of safety.

The coroner then asked Mr Marshall if he thought celluloid was dangerous. Mr Marshall stated that "he would not admit that it was dangerous." After further questioning by the coroner, Mr Marshall was asked if any fire drill was given to the girls and replied: "I never gave the girls a fire drill because in work it would be a 'comic opera.' They knew the roof better than I did." These words caused a remarkable outburst of protest on the part of the mothers in the courtroom. There were cries of, "you lie, you wicked man, and she is innocent in her grave".

Earnest Wild, who acted for the employers at Angus Thomas Ltd, elicited from Mr Marshall that many government inspectors had visited the premises and then asked, "Now you have had a fire are you to be a scapegoat?" "I take it; I am the worst man in the world", said Mr Marshall before adding, "I have not had much sleep since."

After deliberating for two and a half hours the jury decided that the fire was caused accidentally and that death, in each case, was due to injuries received accidentally. They urged that sealing wax should not be used for parcels of celluloid and that naked flames should be protected. They further suggested the appointment of a commission to inquire into the saving of life in fires and added that considering the nature of the trade, carried out at the premises, fire extinguishers ought to have been provided.

For years afterward, Elizabeth Watson never spoke about her daughter's death that evening. In her sitting room hung a huge picture; the picture showed a funeral carriage drawn by horses; each horse was dressed with tall black feather plumes. In the clear glass encasement of the carriage was the coffin of her 14-year old daughter Elizabeth.

What historic events is your family a part of?

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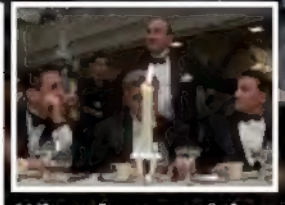
HISTORY VS HOLLYWOOD

Fact versus fiction on the silver screen

THE UNTOUCHABLES

Director: Brian De Palma **Starring:** Kevin Costner, Sean Connery, Robert De Niro **Country of origin:** USA **Year made:** 1987

Set during the 1920s Prohibition era, is it time to call last orders on this classic depiction of infamous mob boss Al Capone?



What they got right

The scene where Capone brutally beats one of his men to death with a baseball bat is based on an actual event. When Capone learned of a plan to kill him, he invited the conspirators to a dinner party where he bludgeoned the three men with a bat before they were shot.

WHAT THEY GOT WRONG...

01 The film's courtroom climax pits Al Capone against federal agent Eliot Ness, resulting in an adrenaline-pumping rooftop chase, but this is entirely fantastical. In reality, no such showdown occurred and the two men never came face to face.

02 Costner's portrayal of Ness is that of a hard-working family man with high morals, enforcing Prohibition among his force. The real Eliot Ness had a chequered career, a host of failed marriages and is rumoured to have struggled with alcoholism.

03 Frank Nitti meets his grisly fate after Ness throws him off the roof of a building, but this is inaccurate. The real Nitti managed Capone's empire while he was in prison and was charged with extortion, but he ended his own life before the trial.

04 The 'Untouchables' of the film comprises of Eliot Ness, Oscar Wallace, Jim Malone and George Stone, but in his biography Ness reports that there were actually ten men on the team, none of whom share names with the characters depicted in the film.

05 Despite his client's protests, Capone's lawyer pleads guilty at the trial, but this is simply wrong. A defence lawyer is not allowed to plead guilty without his client's consent and the real Capone actually pled not guilty and the trial went to verdict.

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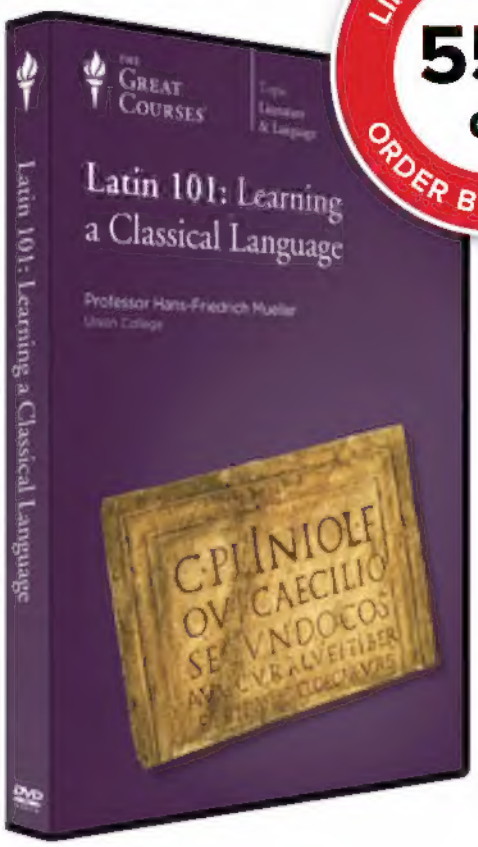

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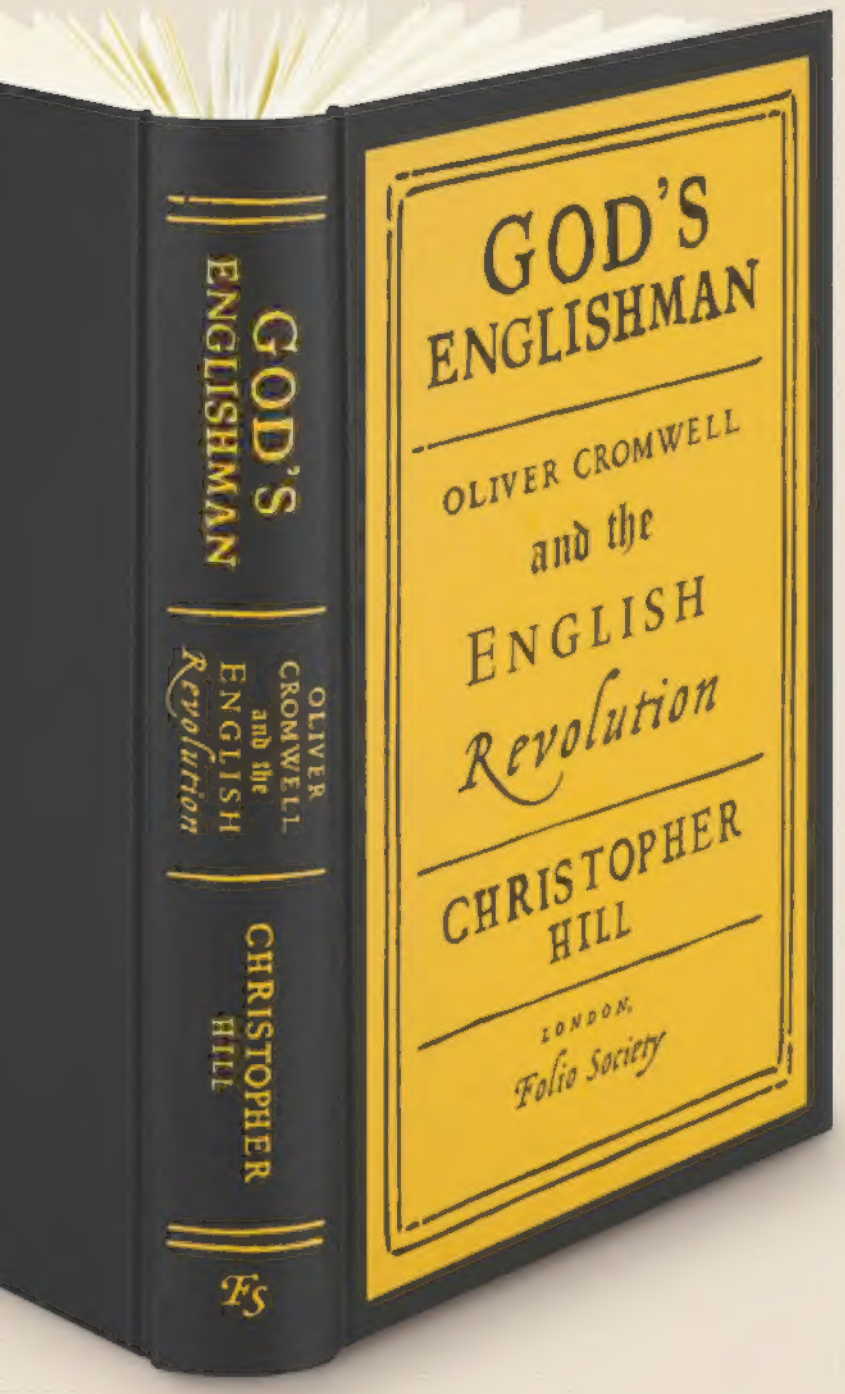

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